

Formal Logic

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Preliminaries

1 Sets

Presentations of logic vary in how much **set theory** they use. Some are heavily laden with set theory. Though most are not, it is nearly impossible to avoid it completely. It will not be a very important focal point for this book, but we will use a little set theory vocabulary here and there. This section introduces the vocabulary and notation used.

1.1 Sets and elements

Mathematicians use 'set' as an undefined primitive term. Some authors resort to quasi-synonyms such as 'collection'.

A *set* has *elements*. 'Element' is also undefined in set theory. We say that an element *is a member of* a set, also an undefined expression. The following are all used synonymously:

x is a member of y

x is contained in y

x is included in y

y contains x

y includes x

1.1.1 Notation

A set can be specified by enclosing its members within curly braces.

$$\{1, 2, 3\}$$

is the set containing 1, 2, and 3 as members. The curly brace notation can be extended to specify a set using a rule for membership.

$\{x : x = 1 \text{ or } x = 2 \text{ or } x = 3\}$ (The set of all x such that $x = 1$ or $x = 2$ or $x = 3$)

is again the set containing 1, 2, and 3 as members.

$\{x : x \text{ is a positive integer}\}$, and

$$\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

both specify the set containing 1, 2, 3, and onwards.

A modified epsilon is used to denote set membership. Thus

$$x \in y$$

indicates that "x is a member of y". We can also say that "x is not a member of y" in this way:

$$x \notin y$$

1.1.2 Characteristics of sets

A set is uniquely identified by its members. The expressions

$$\{x : x \text{ is an even prime}\}$$

$$\{x : x \text{ is a positive square root of } 4\}$$

$$\{2\}$$

all specify the same set even though the concept of an even prime is different from the concept of a positive square root. Repetition of members is inconsequential in specifying a set. The expressions

$$\{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\{1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\{x : x \text{ is an even prime or } x \text{ is a positive square root of } 4 \text{ or } x = 1 \text{ or } x = 2 \text{ or } x = 3\}$$

all specify the same set.

Sets are unordered. The expressions

$$\{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\{3, 2, 1\}$$

$$\{2, 1, 3\}$$

all specify the same set.

Sets can have other sets as members. There is, for example, the set

$$\{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, \text{George Washington}\}\}$$

1.1.3 Some special sets

As stated above, sets are defined by their members. Some sets, however, are given names to ease referencing them.

The set with no members is the *empty set*. The expressions

$$\{\}$$

$$\emptyset$$

$$\{x : x \neq x\}$$

all specify the empty set. Empty sets can also express oxymora ("four-sided triangles" or "birds with radial symmetry") and factual non-existence ("the King of Czechoslovakia in 1994").

A set with exactly one member is called a *singleton*. A set with exactly two members is called a *pair*. Thus $\{1\}$ is a singleton and $\{1, 2\}$ is a pair.

ω is the set of natural numbers, $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$.

1.2 Subsets, power sets, set operations

1.2.1 Subsets

A set s is a *subset* of set a if every member of s is a member of a . We use the horseshoe notation to indicate subsets. The expression

$$\{1, 2\} \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}$$

says that $\{1, 2\}$ is a subset of $\{1, 2, 3\}$. The empty set is a subset of every set. Every set is a subset of itself. A *proper subset* of a is a subset of a that is not identical to a . The expression

$$\{1, 2\} \subset \{1, 2, 3\}$$

says that $\{1, 2\}$ is a proper subset of $\{1, 2, 3\}$.

1.2.2 Power sets

A *power set* of a set is the set of all its subsets. A script 'P' is used for the power set.

$$\mathcal{P}\{1, 2, 3\} = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$$

1.2.3 Union

The *union* of two sets a and b , written $a \cup b$, is the set that contains all the members of a and all the members of b (and nothing else). That is,

$$a \cup b = \{x : x \in a \text{ or } x \in b\}$$

As an example,

$$\{1, 2, 3\} \cup \{2, 3, 4\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

1.2.4 Intersection

The *intersection* of two sets a and b , written $a \cap b$, is the set that contains everything that is a member of both a and b (and nothing else). That is,

$$a \cap b = \{x : x \in a \text{ and } x \in b\}$$

As an example,

$$\{1, 2, 3\} \cap \{2, 3, 4\} = \{2, 3\}$$

1.2.5 Relative complement

The *relative complement* of a in b , written $b \setminus a$ (or $b - a$) is the set containing all the members of b that are not members of a . That is,

$$b \setminus a = \{x : x \in b \text{ and } x \notin a\}$$

As an example,

$$\{2, 3, 4\} \setminus \{1, 3\} = \{2, 4\}$$

1.3 Ordered sets, relations, and functions

The intuitive notions of *ordered set*, *relation*, and *function* will be used from time to time. For our purposes, the intuitive mathematical notion is the most important. However, these intuitive notions can be defined in terms of sets.

1.3.1 Ordered sets

First, we look at ordered sets. We said that sets are unordered:

$$\{a, b\} = \{b, a\}$$

But we can define ordered sets, starting with ordered pairs. The angle bracket notation is used for this:

$$\langle a, b \rangle \neq \langle b, a \rangle$$

Indeed,

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle \text{ if and only if } x = u \text{ and } y = v$$

Any set theoretic definition giving $\langle a, b \rangle$ this last property will work. The standard definition of the *ordered pair* $\langle a, b \rangle$ runs:

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$$

This means that we can use the latter notation when doing operations on an ordered pair.

There are also bigger ordered sets. The *ordered triple* $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ is the ordered pair $\langle \langle a, b \rangle, c \rangle$. The *ordered quadruple* $\langle a, b, c, d \rangle$ is the ordered pair $\langle \langle a, b, c \rangle, d \rangle$. This, in turn, is the ordered triple $\langle \langle a, b \rangle, c \rangle, d \rangle$. In general, an *ordered n-tuple* $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$ where n greater than 1 is the ordered pair $\langle \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1} \rangle, a_n \rangle$.

It can be useful to define an *ordered 1-tuple* as well: $\langle a \rangle = a$.

These definitions are somewhat arbitrary, but it is nonetheless convenient for an n -tuple, $n > 2$, to be an $n-1$ tuple and indeed an ordered pair. The important property that makes them serve as ordered sets is:

$$\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle = \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \rangle \text{ if and only if } x_1 = y_1, x_2 = y_2, \dots, x_n = y_n$$

1.3.2 Relations

We now turn to relations. Intuitively, the following are relations:

$$x < y$$

x is a square root of y

x is a brother of y

x is between y and z

The first three are binary or 2-place relations; the fourth is a ternary or 3-place relation. In general, we talk about n -ary relations or n -place relations.

First consider binary relations. A *binary relation* is a set of ordered pairs. The *less than* relation would have among its members $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$, $\langle 1, 3 \rangle$, $\langle 16, 127 \rangle$, etc. Indeed, the *less than* relation defined on the natural numbers ω is:

$$\{\langle x, y \rangle : x \in \omega, y \in \omega, \text{ and } x < y\}$$

Intuitively, $\langle x, y \rangle$ is a member of the *less than* relation if $x < y$. In set theory, we do not worry about whether a relation matches an intuitive concept such as *less than*. Rather, *any* set of ordered pairs is a binary relation.

We can also define a 3-place relation as a set of 3-tuples, a 4-place relation as a set of 4-tuples, etc. We only define n -place relations for $n \geq 2$. An n -place relation is said to have an *arity* of n . The following example is a 3-place relation.

$$\{\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle, \langle 8, 2, 1 \rangle, \langle 653, 0, 927 \rangle\}$$

Because all n -tuples where $n > 1$ are also ordered pairs, all n -place relations are also binary relations.

1.3.3 Functions

Finally, we turn to functions. Intuitively, a function is an assignment of values to arguments such that each argument is assigned at most one value. Thus the $+ 2$ function assigns a numerical argument x the value $x + 2$. Calling this function f , we say $f(x) = x + 2$. The following define specific functions.

$$f_1(x) = x \times x$$

$$f_2(x) = \text{the smallest prime number larger than } x$$

$$f_3(x) = 6/x$$

$$f_4(x) = \text{the father of } x$$

Note that f_3 is undefined when $x = 0$. According to biblical tradition, f_4 is undefined when $x = \text{Adam}$ or $x = \text{Eve}$. The following do not define functions.

$$f_5(x) = \pm\sqrt{x}$$

$$f_6(x) = \text{a son of } x$$

Neither of these assigns unique values to arguments. For every positive x , there are two square roots, one positive and one negative, so f_5 is not a function. For many x , x will have multiple sons, so f_6 is not a function. If f_6 is assigned the value *the son of* x then a unique value is implied by the rules of language, therefore f_6 will be a function.

A *function* f is a binary relation where, if $\langle x, y \rangle$ and $\langle x, z \rangle$ are both members of f , then $y = z$.

We can define many place functions. Intuitively, the following are definitions of specific many place functions.

$$f_7(x, y) = x + y$$

$$f_8(x, y, z) = (x + y) \times z$$

Thus $\langle 4, 7, 11 \rangle$ is a member of the 2-place function f_7 . $\langle 3, 4, 5, 35 \rangle$ is a member of the 3 place function f_8 .

The fact that all n -tuples, $n \geq 2$, are ordered pairs (and hence that all n -ary relations are binary relations) becomes convenient here. For $n \geq 1$, an n -place function is an $n+1$ place relation that is a 1-place function. Thus, for a 2-place function f ,

$$\langle x, y, z_1 \rangle \in f \text{ and } \langle x, y, z_2 \rangle \in f \text{ if and only if } z_1 = z_2$$

Sentential Logic

Sentential Logic

1. REDIRECT Formal Logic/Sentential Logic/Goals¹

¹ <https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Formal%20Logic%2FSentential%20Logic%2FGoals>

2 The Sentential Language

This page informally describes our sentential language which we name \mathcal{L}_S . A more formal description will be given in Formal Syntax¹ and Formal Semantics²

2.1 Language components

2.1.1 Sentence letters

The *sentence letters* are single letters such as

P, Q, R, etc.

Some texts restrict this to lower case letters, and others restrict them to capital letters. We will use capital letters.

Intuitively, we can think of sentence letters as translating English sentences that are either true or false. Thus, P can translate 'The Earth is a planet' (which is true) or 'The moon is made of green cheese' (which is false). But P can not translate 'Great ideas sleep furiously' because it is neither true nor false. Translations between English and \mathcal{L}_S work best if we restrict ourselves to timelessly true or false present tense³ sentences in the indicative mood⁴. You will see from the translation section below⁵ that we do not always follow that advice. The truth or falsity of those sentences is not timeless.

2.1.2 Sentential connectives

Sentential connectives are special symbols in Sentential Logic that represent truth functional relations. They are used to build larger sentences from smaller sentences. The truth or falsity of the larger sentence can then be computed from the truth or falsity of the smaller ones.

Conjunction: \wedge

- Translates to English as 'and'.
- $P \wedge Q$ is called a *conjunction* and P and Q are its *conjuncts*.

¹ Chapter 2.4 on page 15

² Chapter 4.3 on page 24

³ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Present%20tense>

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indicative%20mood%23Indicative_mood

⁵ Chapter 2.3 on page 14

- $P \wedge Q$ is true if both P and Q are true—and is false otherwise.
- Some authors use an & (ampersand), • (heavy dot) or juxtaposition. In the last case, an author would write

$$PQ$$

instead of our

$$P \wedge Q .$$

Disjunction: \vee

- Translates to English as 'or'.
- $P \vee Q$ is called a *disjunction* and P and Q are its *disjuncts*.
- $P \vee Q$ is true if at least one of P and Q are true—is false otherwise.
- Some authors may use a vertical stroke: |. However, this comes from computer languages rather than logicians' usage. Logicians normally reserve the vertical stroke for nand (alternative denial). When used as nand, it is called the Sheffer stroke⁶.

Negation: \neg

- Translates to English as 'it is not the case that' but is normally read 'not'.
- $\neg P$ is called a *negation*.
- $\neg P$ is true if P is false—and is false otherwise.
- Some authors use ~ (tilde) or -. Some authors use an overline, for example writing

$$\bar{P} \text{ and } (\overline{(P \wedge Q)} \vee R)$$

instead of

$$\neg P \text{ and } (\neg(P \wedge Q) \vee R) .$$

Conditional: \rightarrow

- Translates to English as 'if...then' but is often read 'arrow'.
- $P \rightarrow Q$ is called a *conditional*. Its *antecedent* is P and its *consequent* is Q .
- $P \rightarrow Q$ is false if P is true and Q is false—and true otherwise.
- By that definition, $P \rightarrow Q$ is equivalent to $(\neg P) \vee Q$
- Some authors use \supset (hook).

Biconditional: \leftrightarrow

- Translates to English as 'if and only if'
- $P \leftrightarrow Q$ is called a *biconditional*.
- $P \leftrightarrow Q$ is true if P and Q both are true or both are false—and false otherwise.

⁶ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheffer%20stroke>

- By that definition, $P \leftrightarrow Q$ is equivalent to the more verbose $(P \wedge Q) \vee ((\neg P) \wedge (\neg Q))$. It is also equivalent to $(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)$, the conjunction of two conditionals where in the second conditional the antecedent and consequent are reversed from the first.
- Some authors use \equiv .

2.1.3 Grouping

Parentheses (and) are used for grouping. Thus

$$((P \wedge Q) \rightarrow R)$$

$$(P \wedge (Q \rightarrow R))$$

are two different and distinct sentences. Each negation, conjunction, disjunction, conditional, and biconditionals gets a single pair or parentheses.

2.2 Notes

(1) An *atomic sentence* is a sentence consisting of just a single sentence letter. A *molecular sentence* is a sentence with at least one sentential connective. The *main connective* of a molecular formula is the connective that governs the entire sentence. Atomic sentences, of course, do not have a main connective.

(2) The \supset and \equiv signs for conditional and biconditional are historically older, perhaps a bit more traditional, and definitely occur more commonly in WikiBooks⁷ and Wikipedia⁸ than our arrow and double arrow. They originate with Alfred North Whitehead⁹ and Bertrand Russell¹⁰ in *Principia Mathematica*¹¹. Our arrow and double arrow appear to originate with Alfred Tarski¹², and may be a bit more popular today than the Whitehead and Russell's \supset and \equiv .

(3) Sometimes you will see people reading our arrow as *implies*. This is fairly common in WikiBooks¹³ and Wikipedia¹⁴. However, most logicians prefer to reserve 'implies' for metalinguistic use. They will say:

If P then Q

or even

P arrow Q

7 https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Main_Page

8 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

9 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred%20North%20Whitehead>

10 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bertrand%20Russell>

11 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principia_Mathematica

12 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred%20Tarski>

13 https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Main_Page

14 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

They approve of:

'P' implies 'Q'

but will frown on:

P implies Q

2.3 Translation

Consider the following English sentences:

If it is raining and Jones is out walking, then Jones has an umbrella.

If it is Tuesday or it is Wednesday, then Jones is out walking.

To render these in \mathcal{L}_S , we first specify an appropriate English translation for some sentence letters.

P : It is raining.

Q : Jones is out walking.

R : Jones has an umbrella.

S : It is Tuesday.

T : It is Wednesday.

We can now partially translate our examples as:

If P and Q, then R

If S or T, then Q

Then finish the translation by adding the sentential connectives and parentheses:

$((P \wedge Q) \rightarrow R)$

$((S \vee T) \rightarrow Q)$

2.4 Quoting convention

For English expressions, we follow the logical tradition of using single quotes. This allows us to use ' 'It is raining' ' as a quotation of 'It is raining'.

For expressions in \mathcal{L}_S , it is easier to treat them as self-quoting so that the quotation marks are implicit. Thus we say that the above example translates $S \rightarrow P$ (note the lack of quotes) as 'If it is Tuesday, then It is raining'.

3 Formal Syntax

In The Sentential Language¹, we informally described our sentential language. Here we give its formal syntax or grammar. We will call our language \mathcal{L}_S .

3.1 Vocabulary

- *Sentence letters:* Capital letters 'A' – 'Z', each with (1) a superscript '0' and (2) a natural number subscript. (The *natural numbers* are the set of positive integers and zero.) Thus the sentence letters are:

$$A_0^0, A_1^0, \dots, B_0^0, B_1^0, \dots, \dots, Z_0^0, Z_1^0, \dots$$

- *Sentential connectives:*

$$\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$$

- Grouping symbols:

$$(),$$

The superscripts on sentence letters are not important until we get to the predicate logic, so we won't really worry about those here. The subscripts on sentence letters are to ensure an infinite supply of sentence letters. On the next page, we will abbreviate away most superscripts and subscripts.

3.2 Expressions

Any string of characters from the \mathcal{L}_S vocabulary is an *expression* of \mathcal{L}_S . Some expressions are grammatically correct. Some are as incorrect in \mathcal{L}_S as 'Over talks David Mary the' is in English. Still other expressions are as hopelessly ill-formed in \mathcal{L}_S as 'jmr.ovn asgj as;lnre' is in English.

We call a grammatically correct expression of \mathcal{L}_S a well-formed formula. When we get to Predicate Logic, we will find that only some well formed formulas are sentences. For now though, we consider every well formed formula to be a sentence.

¹ Chapter 1.3.3 on page 9

3.3 Formation rules

An expression of \mathcal{L}_S is a *well-formed formula* of \mathcal{L}_S if and only if it is constructed according to the following rules.

- i. A sentence letter is a well-formed formula.
- ii. If φ and ψ are well-formed formulae, then so are each of:

$$\text{ii-a. } \neg\varphi$$

$$\text{ii-b. } (\varphi \wedge \psi)$$

$$\text{ii-c. } (\varphi \vee \psi)$$

$$\text{ii-d. } (\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

$$\text{ii-e. } (\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$$

In general, we will use 'formula' as shorthand for 'well-formed formula'. Since all formulae in \mathcal{L}_S are sentences, we will use 'formula' and 'sentence' interchangeably.

3.4 Quoting convention

We will take expressions of \mathcal{L}_S to be self-quoting and so regard

$$(P_0^0 \rightarrow Q_0^0)$$

to include implicit quotation marks. However, something like

$$(1) \quad (\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

requires special consideration. It is not itself an expression of \mathcal{L}_S since φ and ψ are not in the vocabulary of \mathcal{L}_S . Rather they are used as variables in English which range over expressions of \mathcal{L}_S . Such a variable is called a *metavariable*, and an expression using a mix of vocabulary from \mathcal{L}_S and metavariables is called a *metalogical expression*. Suppose we let φ be P_0^0 and ψ be $(Q_0^0 \vee R_0^0)$. Then (1) becomes

$$('P_0^0' \rightarrow ('Q_0^0' \vee 'R_0^0'))$$

which is not what we want. Instead we take (1) to mean (using explicit quotes):

the expression consisting of '(' followed by φ followed by ' \rightarrow ' followed by ψ followed by ')'.
).

Explicit quotes following this convention are called *Quine quotes* or *corner quotes*. Our corner quotes will be implicit.

3.5 Additional terminology

We introduce (or, in some cases, repeat) some useful syntactic terminology.

- We distinguish between an expression (or a formula) and an *occurrence* of an expression (or formula). The formula

$$((P_0^0 \wedge P_0^0) \wedge \neg P_0^0)$$

is the same formula no matter how many times it is written. However, it contains three occurrences of the sentence letter P_0^0 and two occurrences of the sentential connective \wedge .

- ψ is a *subformula* of φ if and only if φ and ψ are both formulae and φ contains an occurrence of ψ . ψ is a *proper subformula* of φ if and only if (i) ψ is a subformula of φ and (ii) ψ is not the same formula as φ .
- An *atomic formula* or *atomic sentence* is one consisting solely of a sentence letter. Or put the other way around, it is a formula with no sentential connectives. A *molecular formula* or *molecular sentence* is one which contains at least one occurrence of a sentential connective.
- The *main connective* of a molecular formula is the last occurrence of a connective added when the formula was constructed according to the rules above.
- A *negation* is a formula of the form $\neg\varphi$ where φ is a formula.
- A *conjunction* is a formula of the form $(\varphi \wedge \psi)$ where φ and ψ are both formulae. In this case, φ and ψ are both *conjuncts*.
- A *disjunction* is a formula of the form $(\varphi \vee \psi)$ where φ and ψ are both formulae. In this case, φ and ψ are both *disjuncts*.
- A *conditional* is a formula of the form $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$ where φ and ψ are both formulae. In this case, φ is the *antecedent*, and ψ is the *consequent*. The *converse* of $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$ is $(\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$. The *contrapositive* of $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$ is $(\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\varphi)$.
- A *biconditional* is a formula of the form $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$ where φ and ψ are both formulae.

3.6 Examples

$$(1) \quad (\neg(P_0^0 \vee Q_0^0) \rightarrow (R_0^0 \wedge \neg Q_0^0))$$

By rule (i), all sentence letters, including

$$P_0^0, Q_0^0, \text{ and } R_0^0,$$

are formulae. By rule (ii-a), then, the negation

$$\neg Q_0^0$$

is also a formula. Then by rules (ii-c) and (ii-b), we get the disjunction and conjunction

$$(P_0^0 \vee Q_0^0), \text{ and } (R_0^0 \wedge \neg Q_0^0)$$

as formulae. Applying rule (ii-a) again, we get the negation

$$\neg(P_0^0 \vee Q_0^0)$$

as a formula. Finally, rule (ii-c) generates the conditional of (1), so it too is a formula.

$$(2) \quad ((P_0^0 \neg \wedge Q_0^0) \vee S_0^0)$$

This appears to be generated by rule (ii-c) from

$$(P_0^0 \neg \wedge Q_0^0), \text{ and } S_0^0 .$$

The second of these is a formula by rule (i). But what about the first? It would have to be generated by rule (ii-b) from

$$P_0^0 \neg \text{ and } Q_0^0 .$$

But

$$P_0^0 \neg$$

cannot be generated by rule (ii-a). So (2) is not a formula.

4 Informal Conventions

In The Sentential Language¹, we gave an informal description of a sentential language, namely \mathcal{L}_S . We have also given a Formal Syntax² for \mathcal{L}_S . Our official grammar generates a large number of parentheses. This makes formal definitions and other specifications easier to write, but it makes the language rather cumbersome to use. In addition, all the subscripts and superscripts quickly get to be unnecessarily tedious. The end result is an ugly and difficult to read language.

We will continue to use official grammar for specifying formalities. However, we will informally use a less cumbersome variant for other purposes. The transformation rules below convert official formulae of \mathcal{L}_S into our informal variant.

4.1 Transformation rules

We create informal variants of official \mathcal{L}_S formulae as follows. The examples are cumulative.

- The official grammar required sentence letters to have the superscript '0'. Superscripts aren't necessary or even useful until we get to the predicate logic, so we will always omit them in our informal variant. We will write, for example, P_0 instead of P_0^0 .
- We will omit the subscript if it is '0'. Thus we will write P instead of P_0^0 . However, we cannot omit all subscripts; we still need to write, for example, P_1 .
- We will omit outermost parentheses. For example, we will write

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

instead of

$$(P_0^0 \rightarrow Q_0^0) .$$

- We will let a series of the same binary connective associate on the right. For example, we can transform the official

$$(P_0^0 \wedge (Q_0^0 \wedge R_0^0))$$

into the informal

1 Chapter 1.3.3 on page 9

2 Chapter 2.4 on page 15

$$P \wedge Q \wedge R .$$

However, the best we can do with

$$((P_0^0 \wedge Q_0^0) \wedge R^0)$$

is

$$(P \wedge Q) \wedge R .$$

- We will use precedence rankings to omit internal parentheses when possible. For example, we will regard \rightarrow as having lower precedence (wider scope) than \vee . This allows us to write

$$P \rightarrow Q \vee R$$

instead of

$$(P_0^0 \rightarrow (Q_0^0 \vee R_0^0)) .$$

However, we cannot remove the internal parentheses from

$$((P_0^0 \rightarrow Q_0^0) \vee R_0^0) .$$

Our informal variant of this latter formula is

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \vee R .$$

Full precedence rankings are given below.

4.2 Precedence and scope

Precedence rankings indicate the order that we evaluate the sentential connectives. \vee has a higher precedence than \rightarrow . Thus, in calculating the truth value of

$$(1) \quad P \rightarrow Q \vee R ,$$

we start by evaluating the truth value of

$$(2) \quad Q \vee R$$

first. Scope is the length of expression that is governed by the connective. The occurrence of \rightarrow in (1) has a wider scope than the occurrence of \vee . Thus the occurrence of \rightarrow in (1) governs the whole sentence while the occurrence of \vee in (1) governs only the occurrence of (2) in (1).

The full ranking from highest precedence (narrowest scope) to lowest precedence (widest scope) is:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \neg | highest precedence (narrowest scope) |
| \wedge | |
| \vee | |
| \rightarrow | |
| \leftrightarrow | lowest precedence (widest scope) |

4.3 Examples

Let's look at some examples. First,

$$((P_0^0 \rightarrow Q_0^0) \leftrightarrow ((P_0^0 \wedge Q_0^0) \vee ((\neg P_0^0 \wedge Q_0^0) \vee (\neg P_0^0 \wedge \neg Q_0^0))))$$

can be written informally as

$$P \rightarrow Q \leftrightarrow P \wedge Q \vee \neg P \wedge Q \vee \neg P \wedge \neg Q .$$

Second,

$$((P_0^0 \leftrightarrow Q_0^0) \leftrightarrow ((P_0^0 \wedge Q_0^0) \vee (\neg P_0^0 \wedge \neg Q_0^0)))$$

can be written informally as

$$(P \leftrightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow P \wedge Q \vee \neg P \wedge \neg Q .$$

Some unnecessary parentheses may prove helpful. In the two examples above, the informal variants may be easier to read as

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$$

and

$$(P \leftrightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge \neg Q) .$$

Note that the informal formula

$$\neg P \rightarrow Q$$

is restored to its official form as

$$(\neg P_0^0 \rightarrow Q_0^0) .$$

By contrast, the informal formula

$$\neg(P \rightarrow Q)$$

is restored to its official form as

$$\neg(P_0^0 \rightarrow Q_0^0) .$$

5 Formal Semantics

English syntax for 'Dogs bark' specifies that it consists of a plural noun followed by an intransitive verb. English semantics for 'Dogs bark' specify its meaning, namely that dogs bark.

In The Sentential Language¹, we gave an informal description of \mathcal{L}_S . We also gave a Formal Syntax². However, at this point our language is just a toy, a collection of symbols we can string together like beads on a necklace. We do have rules for how those symbols are to be ordered. But at this point those might as well be aesthetic rules. The difference between well-formed formulae and ill-formed expressions is not yet any more significant than the difference between pretty and ugly necklaces. In order for our language to have any meaning, to be usable in saying things, we need a formal semantics.

Any given formal language can be paired with any of a number of competing semantic rule sets. The semantics we define here is the usual one for modern logic. However, alternative semantic rule-sets have been proposed. Alternative semantic rule-sets of \mathcal{L}_S have included (but are certainly not limited to) intuitionistic logics³, relevance logics⁴, non-monotonic logics⁵, and multi-valued logics⁶.

5.1 Formal semantics

The formal semantics for a formal language such as \mathcal{L}_S goes in two parts.

- Rules for specifying an interpretation. An *interpretation* assigns semantic values to the non-logical symbols of a formal syntax. The semantics for a formal language will specify what range of values can be assigned to which class of non-logical symbols. \mathcal{L}_S has only one class of non-logical symbols, so the rule here is particularly simple. An interpretation for a sentential language is a *valuation*, namely an assignment of truth values to sentence letters. In predicate logic, we will encounter interpretations that include other elements in addition to a valuation.
- Rules for assigning semantic values to larger expressions of the language. For sentential logic, these rules assign a truth value to larger formulae based on truth values assigned to smaller formulae. For more complex syntaxes (such as for predicate logic), values are assigned in a more complex fashion.

1 Chapter 1.3.3 on page 9

2 Chapter 2.4 on page 15

3 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intuitionistic%20logic%20>

4 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relevance%20logic%20>

5 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-monotonic%20logic%20>

6 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-valued%20logic%20>

An *extended valuation* assigns truth values to the molecular formulae of \mathcal{L}_S (or similar sentential language) based on a valuation. A valuation for sentence letters is extended by a set of rules to cover all formulae.

5.2 Valuations

We can give a (partial) valuation v as:

$$P_0 : \text{True}$$

$$P_1 : \text{False}$$

$$P_2 : \text{False}$$

$$P_3 : \text{False}$$

(Remember that we are abbreviating our sentence letters by omitting superscripts.)

Usually, we are only interested in the truth values of a few sentence letters. The truth values assigned to other sentence letters can be random.

Given this valuation, we say:

$$v[P_0] = \text{True}$$

$$v[P_1] = \text{False}$$

$$v[P_2] = \text{False}$$

$$v[P_3] = \text{False}$$

Indeed, we can define a valuation as a function taking sentence letters as its arguments and truth values as its values (hence the name 'truth value'). Note that \mathcal{L}_S does not have a fixed interpretation or valuation for sentence letters. Rather, we specify interpretations for temporary use.

5.3 Extended valuations

An extended interpretation generates the truth values of longer sentences given an interpretation. For sentential logic, an interpretation is a valuation, so an extended interpretation is an extended valuation. We define an extension \bar{v} of valuation v as follows.

- i. For π a sentence letter, $\bar{v}[\pi] = v[\pi]$.
- ii. $\bar{v}[\neg\varphi] = \begin{cases} \text{True} & \text{if } \bar{v}[\varphi] = \text{False}; \\ \text{False} & \text{otherwise (i.e., if } \bar{v}[\varphi] = \text{True).} \end{cases}$
- iii. $\bar{v}[(\varphi \wedge \psi)] = \begin{cases} \text{True} & \text{if } \bar{v}[\varphi] = \bar{v}[\psi] = \text{True}; \\ \text{False} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
- iv. $\bar{v}[(\varphi \vee \psi)] = \begin{cases} \text{True} & \text{if } \bar{v}[\varphi] = \text{True or } \bar{v}[\psi] = \text{True (or both);} \\ \text{False} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
- v. $\bar{v}[(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)] = \begin{cases} \text{True} & \text{if } \bar{v}[\varphi] = \text{False or } \bar{v}[\psi] = \text{True (or both);} \\ \text{False} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
- vi. $\bar{v}[(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)] = \begin{cases} \text{True} & \text{if } \bar{v}[\varphi] = \bar{v}[\psi]; \\ \text{False} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

5.4 Example

We will determine the truth value of this example sentence given two valuations.

$$(1) \quad P \wedge Q \rightarrow \neg(Q \vee R)$$

First, consider the following valuation:

$$P : \text{True}$$

$$Q : \text{True}$$

$$R : \text{False}$$

(2) By clause (i):

$$\bar{v}[P] = \text{True}$$

$$\bar{v}[Q] = \text{True}$$

$$\bar{v}[R] = \text{False}$$

(3) By (1) and clause (iii),

$$\bar{v}[P \wedge Q] = \text{True}.$$

(4) By (1) and clause (iv),

$$\bar{v}[Q \vee R] = \text{True}.$$

(5) By (4) and clause (v),

$$\bar{v}[\neg(Q \vee R)] = \text{False}.$$

(6) By (3), (5) and clause (v),

$$\bar{v}[P \wedge Q \rightarrow \neg(Q \vee R)] = \text{False}.$$

Thus (1) is false in our interpretation.

Next, try the valuation:

$$P : \text{True}$$

$$Q : \text{False}$$

$$R : \text{True}$$

(7) By clause (i):

$$\bar{v}[P] = \text{True}$$

$$\bar{v}[Q] = \text{False}$$

$$\bar{v}[R] = \text{True}$$

(8) By (7) and clause (iii),

$$\bar{v}[P \wedge Q] = \text{False.}$$

(9) By (7) and clause (iv),

$$\bar{v}[Q \vee R] = \text{True.}$$

(10) By (9) and clause (v),

$$\bar{v}[\neg(Q \vee R)] = \text{False.}$$

(11) By (8), (10) and clause (v),

$$\bar{v}[P \wedge Q \rightarrow \neg(Q \vee R)] = \text{True.}$$

Thus (1) is true in this second interpretation. Note that we did a bit more work this time than necessary. By clause (v), (8) is sufficient for the truth of (1).

6 Truth Tables

In the Formal Syntax¹, we earlier gave a formal semantics for sentential logic. A *truth table* is a device for using this form syntax in calculating the truth value of a larger formula given an interpretation (an assignment of truth values to sentence letters). Truth tables may also help clarify the material from the Formal Syntax².

6.1 Basic tables

6.1.1 Negation

We begin with the truth table for negation. It corresponds to clause (ii) of our definition for extended valuations.

¹ Chapter 2.4 on page 15

² Chapter 2.4 on page 15

Truth Tables

| P | $\neg P$ |
|---|----------|
| F | T |
| T | F |

| $\neg P$ | P |
|----------|---|
| F | T |
| T | F |

T and F represent *True* and *False* respectively. Each row represents an interpretation. The first column shows what truth value the interpretation assigns to the sentence letter P. In the first row, the interpretation assigns P the value True. In the second row, the interpretation assigns P the value False.

The second column shows the value $\neg P$ receives under a given row's interpretation. Under the interpretation of the first row, $\neg P$ has the value False. Under the interpretation of the second row, $\neg P$ has the value True.

We can put this more formally. The first row of the truth table above shows that when $v[P] = \text{True}$, $\bar{v}[\neg P] = \text{False}$. The second row shows that when $v[P] = \text{False}$, $\bar{v}[\neg P] = \text{True}$. We can also put things more simply: a negation has the opposite truth value than that which is negated.

6.1.2 Conjunction

The truth table for conjunction corresponds to clause (iii) of our definition for extended valuations.

| $P \wedge Q$ |
|--------------|
| T |
| F |

| Q |
|---|
| T |
| F |

| P |
|---|
| T |
| F |

Here we have two sentence letters and so four possible interpretations, each represented by a single row. The first two columns show what the four interpretations assign to P and Q . The interpretation represented by the first row assigns both sentence letters the value True, and so on. The last column shows the value assigned to $P \wedge Q$. You can see that the conjunction is true when both conjuncts are true—and the conjunction is false otherwise, namely when at least one conjunct is false.

6.1.3 Disjunction

The truth table for disjunction corresponds to clause (iv) of our definition for extended valuations.

$P \vee Q$

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | T | F |
| T | T | F |

Q

| | |
|---|---|
| T | F |
| T | F |

P

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | T | F |
| T | F | F |

Here we see that a disjunction is true when at least one of the disjuncts is true—and the disjunction is false otherwise, namely when both disjuncts are false.

6.1.4 Conditional

The truth table for conditional corresponds to clause (v) of our definition for extended valuations.

| $P \rightarrow Q$ |
|-------------------|
| T T |
| F F |

| Q |
|-----|
| T |
| F |

| P |
|-----|
| T |
| F |

A conditional is true when either its antecedent is false or its consequent is true (or both). It is false otherwise, namely when the antecedent is true and the consequent is false.

6.1.5 Biconditional

The truth table for biconditional corresponds to clause (vi) of our definition for extended valuations.

| $P \leftrightarrow Q$ |
|-----------------------|
| T |
| F |

| Q |
|-----|
| T |
| F |

| P |
|-----|
| T |
| F |

A biconditional is true when both parts have the same truth value. It is false when the two parts have opposite truth values.

6.2 Example

We will use the same example sentence from Formal Semantics³:

$$P \wedge Q \rightarrow \neg(Q \vee R) .$$

We construct its truth table as follows:

³ Chapter 5.4 on page 27

Truth Tables

| | $(P \wedge Q) \rightarrow \neg(Q \vee R)$ | |
|---|---|---|
| | F | T |
| F | F | |
| F | T | |
| T | T | |
| T | T | |
| T | T | |
| T | T | |

| | $\neg(Q \vee R)$ | |
|---|------------------|---|
| | F | T |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |
| T | F | |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |
| T | T | |

| | $Q \vee R$ | |
|---|------------|---|
| | T | F |
| T | T | |
| T | F | |
| F | T | |
| T | T | |
| T | F | |

| | $P \wedge Q$ | |
|---|--------------|---|
| | T | F |
| T | T | |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |

| | R | |
|---|-----|---|
| | T | F |
| T | T | |
| F | T | |
| T | F | |
| F | T | |
| T | T | |
| F | F | |

| | Q | |
|---|-----|---|
| | T | F |
| T | T | |
| F | F | |
| F | T | |
| T | F | |
| T | T | |
| F | F | |

| | P | |
|---|-----|---|
| | T | F |
| T | T | |
| T | F | |
| T | F | |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |
| F | F | |

With three sentence letters, we need eight valuations (and so lines of the truth table) to cover all cases. The table builds the example sentence in parts. The $P \wedge Q$ column was based on the P and Q columns. The $Q \vee R$ column was based on the Q and R columns. This in turn was the basis for its negation in the next column. Finally, the last column was based on the $P \wedge Q$ and $\neg(Q \vee R)$ columns.

We see from this truth table that the example sentence is false when both P and Q are true, and it is true otherwise.

This table can be written in a more compressed format as follows.

Truth Tables

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (1) | \wedge | T | T | F | F | F | F | F | F |
| P | | | | | | | | | |
| R | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | |
| Q | T | F | F | T | T | F | F | | |
| P | T | T | T | F | F | F | F | | |

The numbers above the connectives are not part of the truth table but rather show what order the columns were filled in.

6.3 Satisfaction and validity of formulae

6.3.1 Satisfaction

In sentential logic, an interpretation under which a formula is true is said to *satisfy* that formula. In predicate logic, the notion of satisfaction is a bit more complex. A formula is *satisfiable* if and only if it is true under at least one interpretation (that is, if and only if at least one interpretation satisfies the formula). The example truth table of Truth Tables⁴ showed that the following sentence is satisfiable.

$$P \wedge Q \rightarrow \neg(Q \vee R)$$

For a simpler example, the formula P is satisfiable because it is true under any interpretation that assigns P the value True.

We can use the following convenient notation to say that the interpretation v satisfies (or does not satisfy) φ .

$$v \models \varphi$$

$$v \not\models \varphi$$

We can extend the notion of satisfaction to sets of formulae. A set of formulae is satisfiable if and only if there is an interpretation under which every formula of the set is true (that is, the interpretation satisfies every formula of the set).

A formula is *unsatisfiable* if and only if there is no interpretation under which it is true. A trivial example is

$$P \wedge \neg P$$

You can easily confirm by doing a truth table that the formula is false no matter what truth value an interpretation assigns to P . We say that an unsatisfiable formula is *logically false*. One can say that an unsatisfiable formula of sentential logic (but not one of predicate logic) is tautologically false.

⁴ Chapter 5.4 on page 29

6.3.2 Validity

A formula is *valid* if and only if it is satisfied under every interpretation. For example,

$$P \vee \neg P$$

is valid. You can easily confirm by a truth table that it is true no matter what the interpretation assigns to P . We say that a valid sentence is *logically true*. We call a valid formula of sentential logic—but not one of predicate logic—a *tautology*.

We can use the following convenient notation to say that φ is (or is not) valid.

$$\models \psi$$

$$\not\models \psi$$

6.3.3 Equivalence

Two formulae are *equivalent* if and only if they are true under exactly the same interpretations. You can easily confirm by truth table that any interpretation that satisfies $P \wedge Q$ also satisfies $Q \wedge P$. In addition, any interpretation that satisfies $Q \wedge P$ also satisfies $P \wedge Q$. Thus they are equivalent.

We can use the following convenient notation to say that φ and ψ are equivalent.

$$\varphi$$

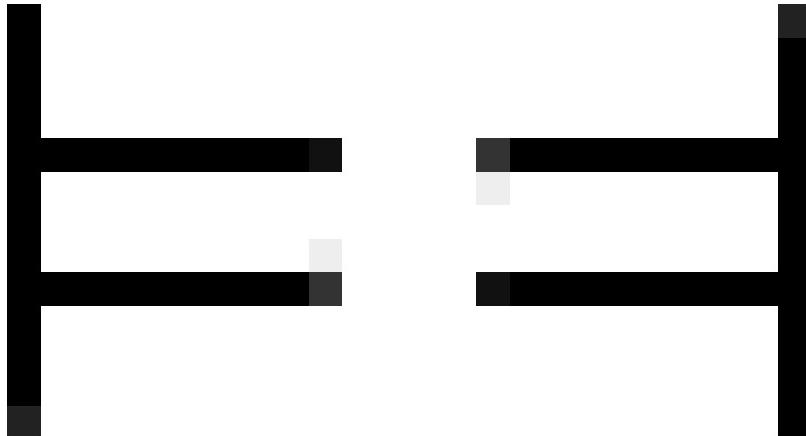


Figure 1

$$\psi$$

which is true if and only if

$$\vDash (\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$$

6.4 Validity of arguments

An *argument* is a set of formulae designated as *premises* together with a single sentence designated as the *conclusion*. Intuitively, we want the premises jointly to constitute a reason to believe the conclusion. For our purposes an argument is *any* set of premises together with *any* conclusion. That can be a bit artificial for some particularly silly arguments, but the logical properties of an argument do not depend on whether it is silly or whether anyone actually does or might consider the premises to be a reason to believe the conclusion. We consider arguments *as if* one does or might consider the premises to be a reason for the conclusion independently of whether anyone actually does or might do so. Even an empty set of premises together with a conclusion counts as an argument.

The following examples show the same argument using several notations.

Example 1

$$P$$

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

$$\text{Therefore } Q$$

Example 2

$$P$$

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

$$\therefore Q$$

Example 3

$$P$$

$$\underline{P \rightarrow Q}$$

$$Q$$

Example 4

$$P, P \rightarrow Q \quad \therefore \quad Q$$

An argument is valid if and only if every interpretation that satisfies all the premises also satisfies the conclusion. A conclusion of a valid argument is a *logical consequence* of its premises. We can express the validity (or invalidity) of the argument with Γ as its set of premises and ψ as its conclusion using the following notation.

- (1) $\Gamma \vDash \psi$
- (2) $\Gamma \not\vDash \psi$

For example, we have

$$\{P, P \rightarrow Q\} \vDash Q$$

Validity for arguments, or logical consequence, is the central notion driving the intuitions on which we build a logic. We want to know whether our arguments are good arguments, that is, whether they represent good reasoning. We want to know whether the premises of an argument constitute good reason to believe the conclusion. Validity is one essential feature of a good argument. It is not the only essential feature. A valid argument with at least one false premise is useless. Validity is the truth-preserving feature. It does not tell us that the conclusion is true, only that the logical features of the argument are such that, if the premises are true, then the conclusion is. A valid argument with true premises is *sound*.

There are other less formal features that a good argument needs. Just because the premises are true does not mean that they are believed, that we have any reason to believe them, or that we could collect evidence for them. It should also be noted that validity only applies to certain types of arguments, particularly *deductive* arguments. Deductive arguments are intended to be valid. The archetypical example for a deductive argument is a mathematical proof. Inductive arguments, of which scientific arguments provide the archetypical example, are not intended to be valid. The truth of the premises are not intended to guarantee that the conclusion is true. Rather, the truth of the premises are intended to make the truth of the conclusion highly probable or likely. In science, we do not intend to offer mathematical proofs. Rather, we gather evidence.

6.5 Formulae and arguments

For every valid formula, there is a corresponding valid argument having the valid formula as its conclusion and the empty set as its set of premises. Thus

$$\vDash \psi$$

if and only if

$$\emptyset \vDash \psi$$

For every valid argument with finitely many premises, there is a corresponding valid formula. Consider a valid argument with ψ as the conclusion and having as its premises $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_n$. Then

$$\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_n \vDash \psi$$

There is then the corresponding valid formula

$$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_n \rightarrow \psi$$

There corresponds to the valid argument

$$P, P \rightarrow Q \quad \therefore \quad Q$$

the following valid formula:

$$P \wedge (P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow Q$$

6.6 Implication

You may see some text reading our arrow \rightarrow as 'implies' and using 'implications' as an alternative for 'conditional'. This is generally decried as a use-mention error. In ordinary English, the following are considered grammatically correct:

- (3) 'That there is smoke implies that there is fire'.
- (4) 'There is smoke' implies 'there is fire'.

In (3), we have one fact or proposition or whatever (the current favorite among philosophers appears to be proposition) implying another of the same species. In (4), we have one sentence implying another.

But the following is considered incorrect:

There is smoke implies there is fire.

Here, in contrast to (3), there are no quotation marks. Nothing is the subject doing the implying and nothing is the object implied. Rather, we are composing a larger sentence out of smaller ones as if 'implies' were a grammatical conjunction such as 'only if'.

Thus logicians tend to avoid using 'implication' to mean *conditional*. Rather, they use 'implies' to mean *has as a logical consequence* and 'implication' to mean *valid argument*. In doing this, they are following the model of (4) rather than (3). In particular, they read (1) and (2) as ' Γ implies (or does not imply) ψ '.

7 Expressibility

7.1 Truth functions

A formula with n sentence letters requires 2^n lines in its truth table. And there are 2^m possible truth functions having a truth table of m lines. Thus there are 2^{2^n} possible truth functions of n sentence letters. There are 4 possible truth functions of one sentence letter (requiring a 2 line truth table) and 16 possible truth functions of two sentence letters (requiring a 4 line truth table). We illustrate this with the following tables. The numbered columns represent the different possibilities for the column of a main connective.

(iv)
F
F

(iii)
F
T

(ii)
T
F

(i)
T
T

P
T
F

You will recognize column (iii) as the negation truth function.

Expressibility

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|------|-------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|------|-----|------|-------|--------|-------|------|
| P | Q | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | (v) | (vi) | (vii) | (viii) | (ix) | (x) | (xi) | (xii) | (xiii) | (xiv) | (xv) |
| T | T | T | F | T | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F |
| T | F | F | T | F | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T |
| F | F | F | F | T | F | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F | T | F |

Column (ii) represents the truth function for disjunction, column (v) represents conditional, column (vii) represents biconditional, and column (viii) represents conjunction.

7.2 Expressing arbitrary truth functions

The question arises whether we have enough connectives to represent all the truth functions of any number of sentence letters. Remember that each row represents one valuation. We can express that valuation by conjoining sentence letters assigned True under that valuation and negations of sentence letters assigned false under that valuation. The four valuations of the second table above can be expressed as

$$P \wedge Q$$

$$P \wedge \neg Q$$

$$\neg P \wedge Q$$

$$\neg P \wedge \neg Q$$

Now we can express an arbitrary truth function by disjoining the valuations under which the truth function has the value true. For example, we can express column (x) with:

$$(1) \quad (P \wedge \neg Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge Q)$$

You can confirm by completing the truth table that this produces the desired result. The formula is true when either (a) P is true and Q is false or (b) P is false and Q is true. There is an easier way to express this same truth function: $P \leftrightarrow \neg Q$. Coming up with a *simple* way to express an arbitrary truth function may require insight, but at least we have an automatic mechanism for finding *some* way to express it.

Now consider a second example. We want to express a truth function of P, Q, and R, and we want this to be true under (and only under) the following three valuations.

| | (i) | (ii) | (iii) |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| P | True | False | False |
| Q | True | True | False |
| R | False | False | True |

We can express the three conditions which yield true as

$$P \wedge Q \wedge \neg R$$

$$\neg P \wedge Q \wedge \neg R$$

$$\neg P \wedge \neg Q \wedge R$$

Now we need to say that *either* the first condition holds *or* that the second condition holds *or* that the third condition holds:

$$(2) \quad (P \wedge Q \wedge \neg R) \vee (\neg P \wedge Q \wedge \neg R) \vee (\neg P \wedge \neg Q \wedge R)$$

You can verify by a truth table that it yields the desired result, that the formula is true in just the interpretation above.

This technique for expressing arbitrary truth functions does not work for truth functions evaluating to False in every interpretation. We need at least one interpretation yielding True in order to get the formula started. However, we can use any tautologically false formula to express such truth functions. $P \wedge \neg P$ will suffice.

7.3 Normal forms

A *normal form* provides a standardized rule of expression where any formula is equivalent to one which conforms to the rule. It will be useful in the following to define a *literal* as a sentence letter or its negation.

The technique for expressing arbitrary truth functions used formulae in disjunctive normal form. A formula in *disjunctive normal form* is a disjunction of conjunctions of literals. For the purposes of this definition, we countenance many-place disjunctions and conjunctions such as $\neg P \wedge Q \wedge \neg R$ or $\neg P \vee Q \vee \neg R$. Also for the purpose of this definition we countenance degenerate disjunctions and conjunctions of only one disjunct or conjunct. Thus we count P as being in disjunctive normal form. It is a degenerate (one-place) disjunction of a degenerate (one-place) conjunction. We could make it less degenerate (but more debauched) by converting it to the equivalent formula $(P \wedge P) \vee (P \wedge P)$.

There is another common normal form in sentential logic, conjunctive normal form. *Conjunctive normal form* is a conjunction of disjunctions of literals. We can express arbitrary truth functions in conjunctive normal form. First, take the valuations for which the truth function evaluates to False. For each such valuation, form a disjunction of sentence letters the valuation assigns False together with the negations of sentence letters the valuation assign true. For the valuation

$$P : \text{False}$$

$$Q : \text{True}$$

$$R : \text{False}$$

we form the disjunction

$$\neg P \vee Q \vee \neg R$$

The conjunctive normal form expression of an arbitrary truth function is the conjunction of all such disjunctions matching the interpretations for which the truth function evaluates to false. The conjunctive normal form equivalent of (1) above is

$$(\neg P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee \neg Q)$$

The conjunctive normal form equivalent of (2) above is

$$(\neg P \vee \neg Q \vee \neg R) \wedge (P \vee \neg Q \vee \neg R) \wedge (P \vee \neg Q \vee R) \wedge (P \vee Q \vee \neg R) \wedge (P \vee Q \vee R)$$

7.4 Interdefinability of connectives

Negation and conjunction are sufficient to express the other three connectives and indeed any arbitrary truth function.

$$P \vee Q$$

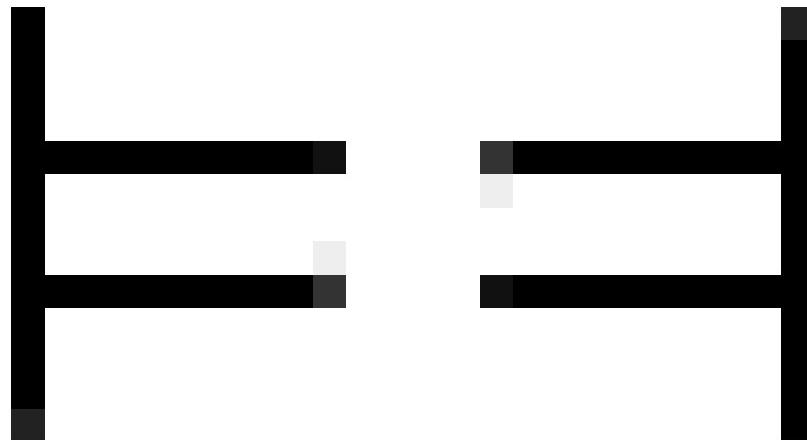


Figure 2

$$\neg(\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$$

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

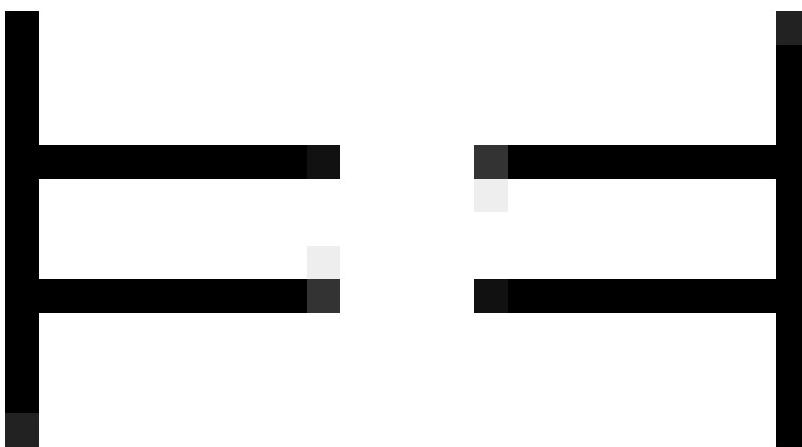


Figure 3

$$\neg(P \wedge \neg Q)$$

$$P \leftrightarrow Q$$

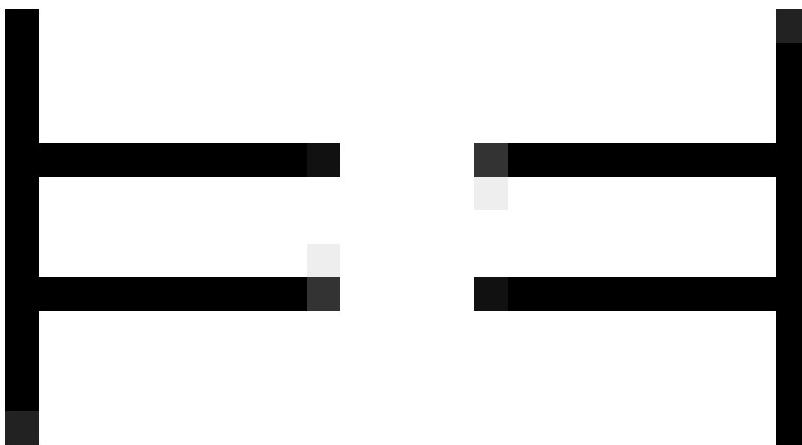
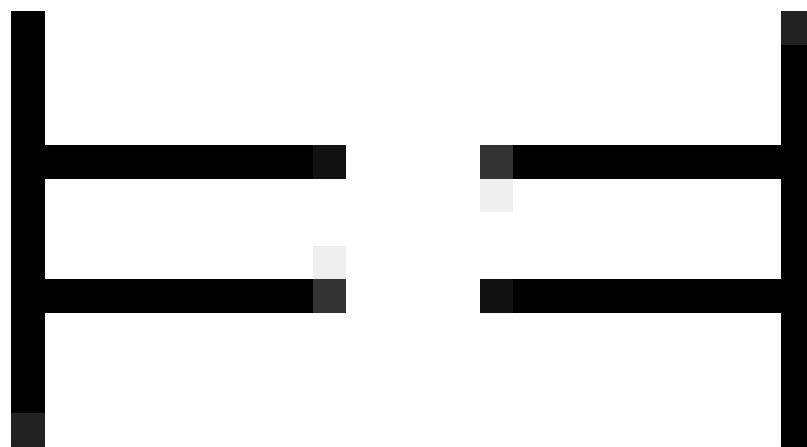


Figure 4

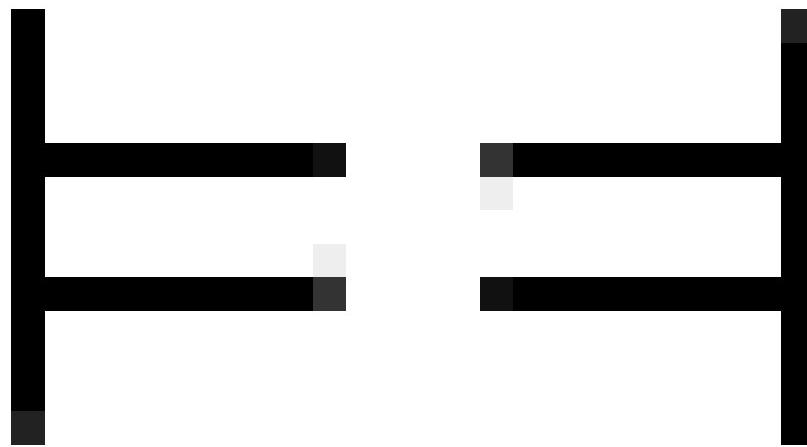
$$(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)$$

**Figure 5**

$$\neg(P \wedge \neg Q) \wedge \neg(Q \wedge \neg P)$$

Negation and disjunction are sufficient to express the other three connectives and indeed any arbitrary truth function.

$$P \wedge Q$$

**Figure 6**

$$\neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q)$$

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

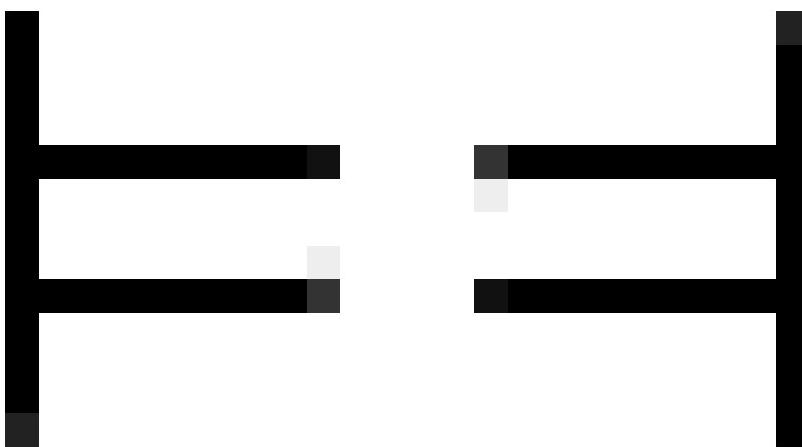


Figure 7

$$\neg P \vee Q$$

$$P \leftrightarrow Q$$

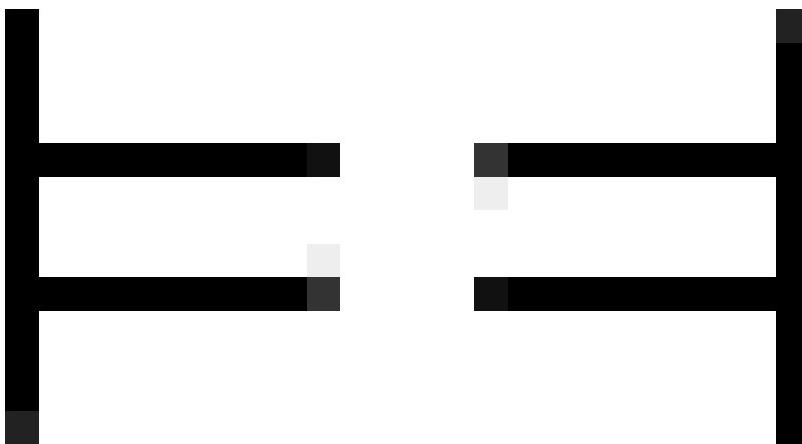
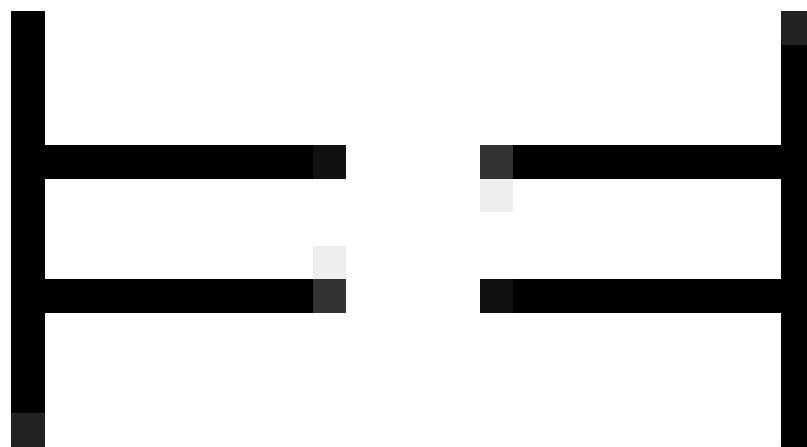


Figure 8

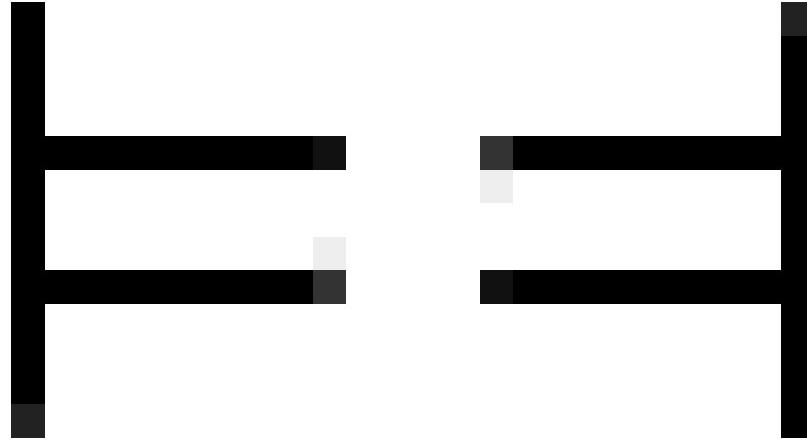
$$(P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$$

**Figure 9**

$$\neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q) \vee \neg(P \vee Q)$$

Negation and conditional are sufficient to express the other three connectives and indeed any arbitrary truth function.

$$P \vee Q$$

**Figure 10**

$$\neg P \rightarrow Q$$

$$P \wedge Q$$

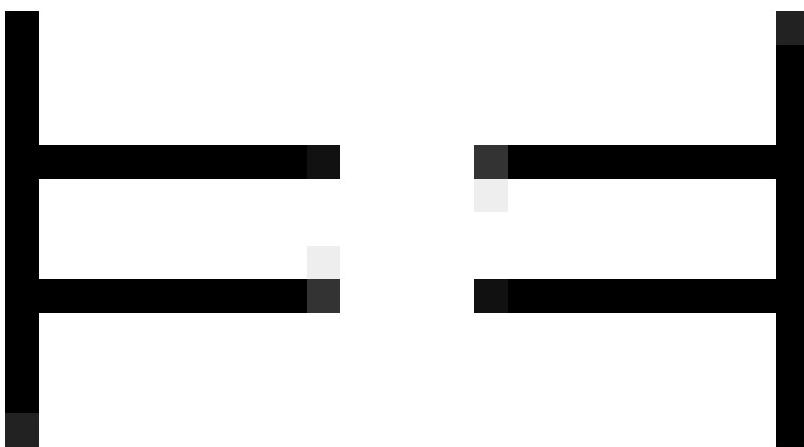


Figure 11

$$\neg(P \rightarrow \neg Q)$$

$$P \leftrightarrow Q$$

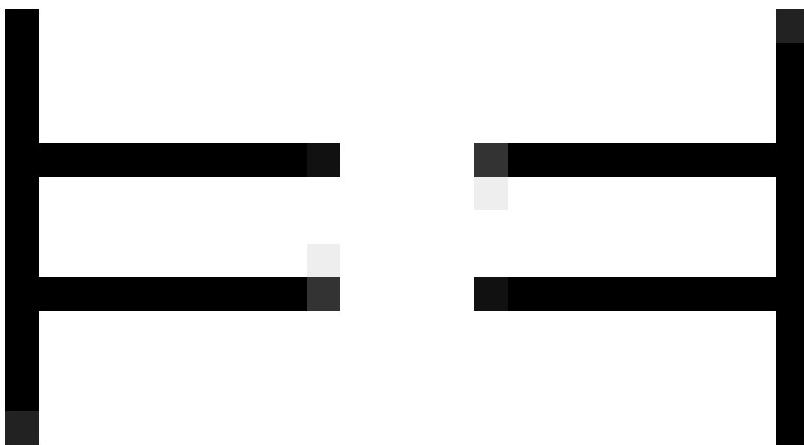
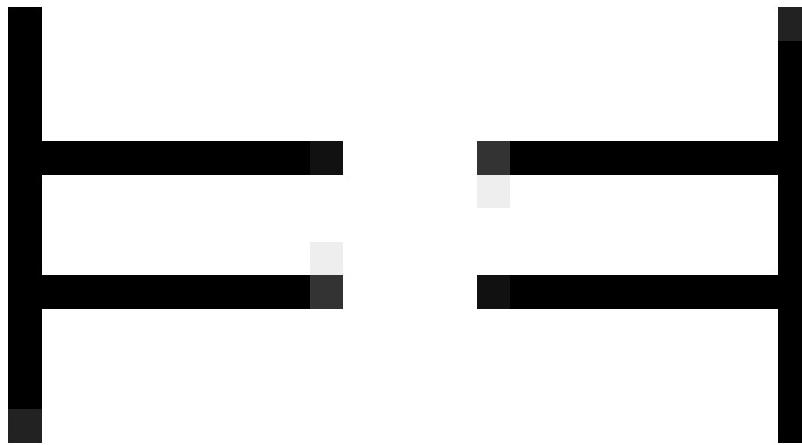


Figure 12

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)$$

**Figure 13**

$$\neg((P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow \neg(Q \rightarrow P))$$

Negation and biconditional are not sufficient to express the other three connectives.

7.5 Joint and alternative denials

We have seen that three pairs of connectives are each jointly sufficient to express any arbitrary truth function. The question arises, is it possible to express any arbitrary truth function with just one connective? The answer is yes, but not with any of our connectives. There are two possible binary connectives each of which, if added to \mathcal{L}_S , would be sufficient.

7.5.1 Alternative denial

Alternative denial, sometimes called *NAND*. The usual symbol for this is called the *Sheffer stroke*. Temporarily add the symbol $|$ to \mathcal{L}_S and let $v[(\varphi | \psi)]$ be True when at least one of φ or ψ is false. It has the truth table :

P | Q
F T T T

Q T F T F

P T T F F

We now have the following equivalences.

$$\neg P$$

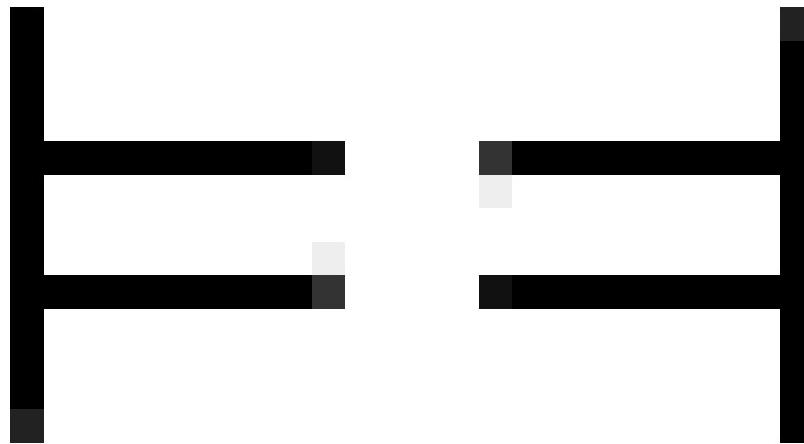


Figure 14

$$\begin{array}{l} P \mid P \\ P \wedge Q \end{array}$$

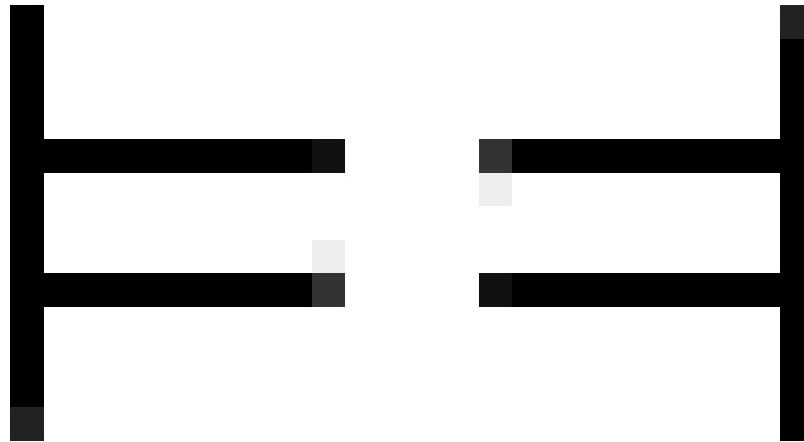


Figure 15

$$\begin{array}{l} (P \mid Q) \mid (P \mid Q) \\ P \vee Q \end{array}$$

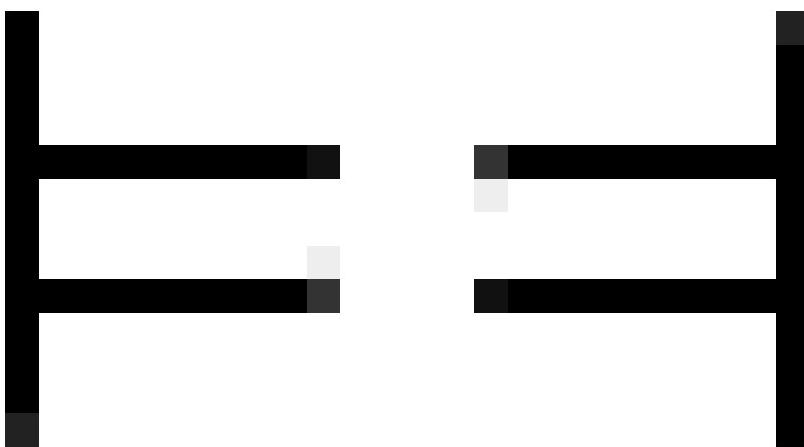


Figure 16

$(P \mid P) \mid (Q \mid Q)$
 $P \rightarrow Q$

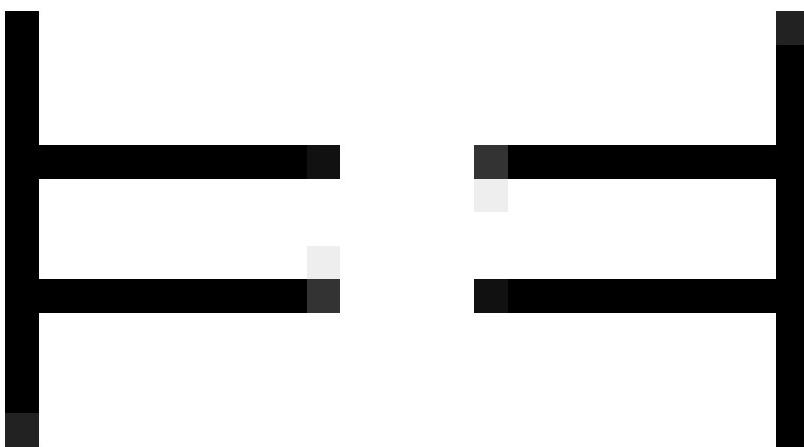


Figure 17

$P \mid (Q \mid Q)$
 $P \leftrightarrow Q$

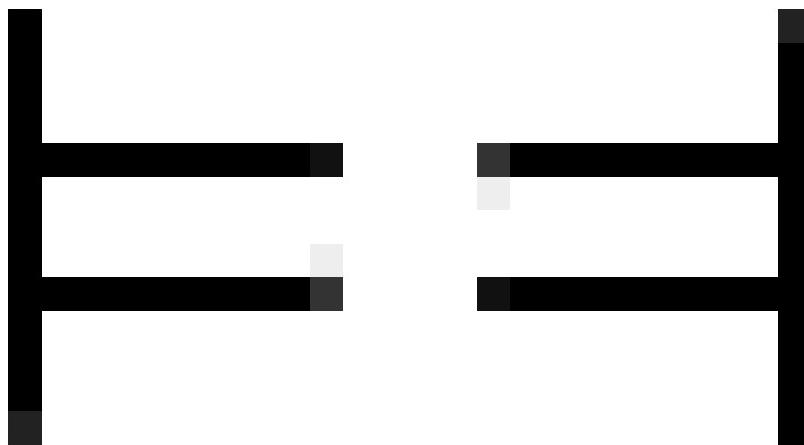


Figure 18

$$(P \mid Q) \mid ((P \mid P) \mid (Q \mid Q))$$

7.5.2 Joint denial

Joint denial, sometimes called *NOR*. Temporarily add the symbol \downarrow to \mathcal{L}_S and let $v[(\varphi \downarrow \psi)]$ be True when both φ and ψ are false. It has the truth table :

$P \downarrow Q$

F F F T

Q

T F T F

P

T T F F

We now have the following equivalences.

$$\neg P$$

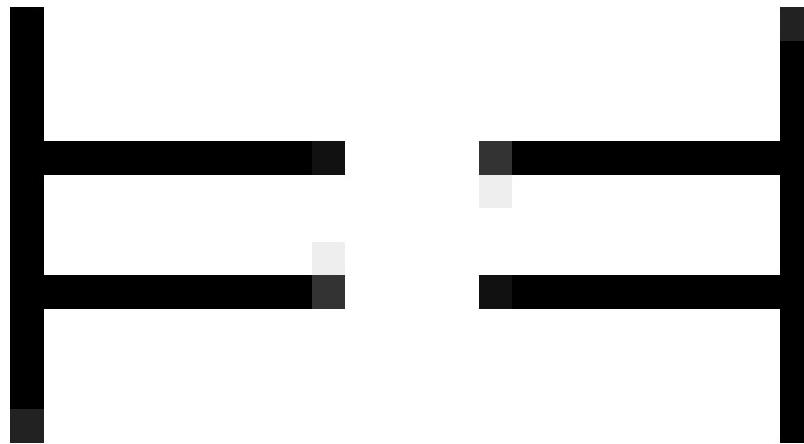


Figure 19

$$P \downarrow P$$

$$P \wedge Q$$

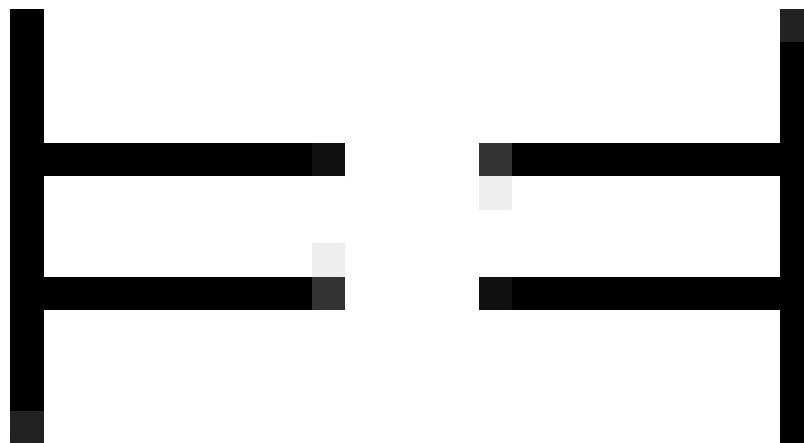


Figure 20

$$(P \downarrow P) \downarrow (Q \downarrow Q)$$

$$P \vee Q$$

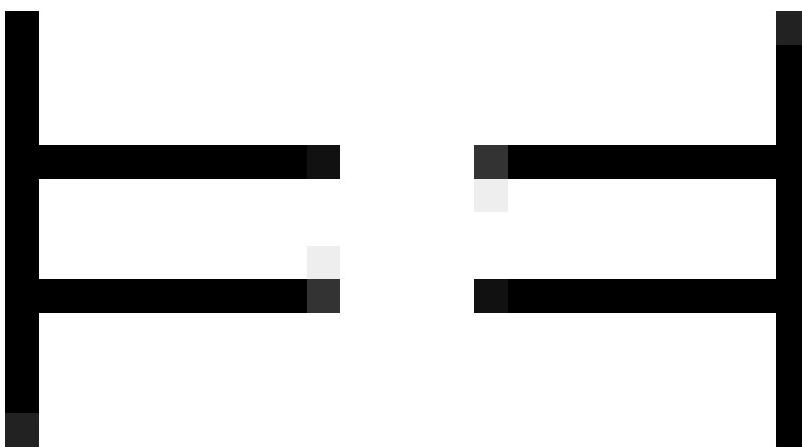


Figure 21

$$\begin{aligned} & (P \downarrow Q) \downarrow (P \downarrow Q) \\ & P \rightarrow Q \end{aligned}$$

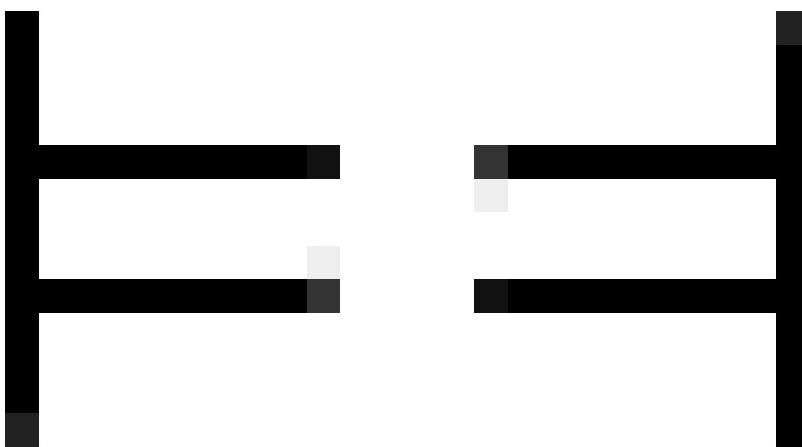


Figure 22

$$\begin{aligned} & ((P \downarrow Q) \downarrow Q) \downarrow ((P \downarrow Q) \downarrow Q) \\ & P \leftrightarrow Q \end{aligned}$$

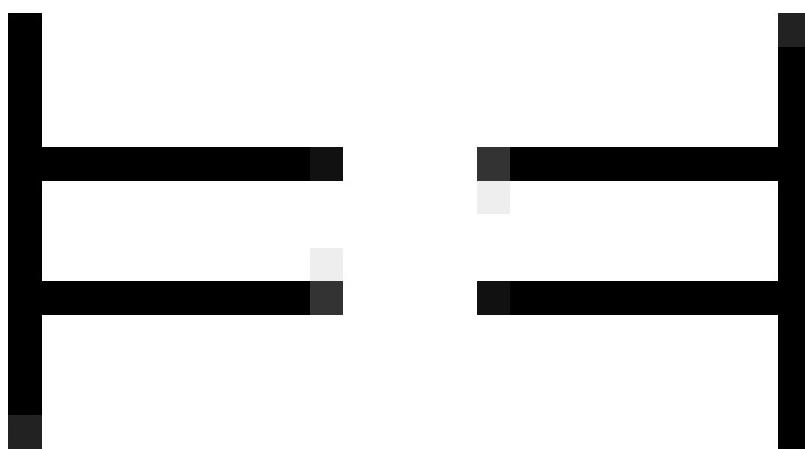


Figure 23

$((P \downarrow P) \downarrow Q) \downarrow (P \downarrow (Q \downarrow Q))$

8 Properties of Sentential Connectives

Here we list some of the more famous, historically important, or otherwise useful equivalences and tautologies. They can be added to the ones listed in Interdefinability of connectives¹. We can go on at quite some length here, but will try to keep the list somewhat restrained. Remember that for every equivalence of φ and ψ , there is a related tautology $\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$.

8.1 Bivalence

Every formula has exactly one of two truth values.

$$\models P \vee \neg P \quad \text{Law of Excluded Middle}$$

$$\models \neg(P \wedge \neg P) \quad \text{Law of Non-Contradiction}$$

8.2 Analogues to arithmetic laws

Some familiar laws from arithmetic have analogues in sentential logic.

8.2.1 Reflexivity

Conditional and biconditional (but not conjunction and disjunction) are reflexive.

$$\models P \rightarrow P$$

$$\models P \leftrightarrow P$$

8.2.2 Commutativity

Conjunction, disjunction, and biconditional (but not conditional) are commutative.

$$P \wedge Q$$

¹ Chapter 7.4 on page 57

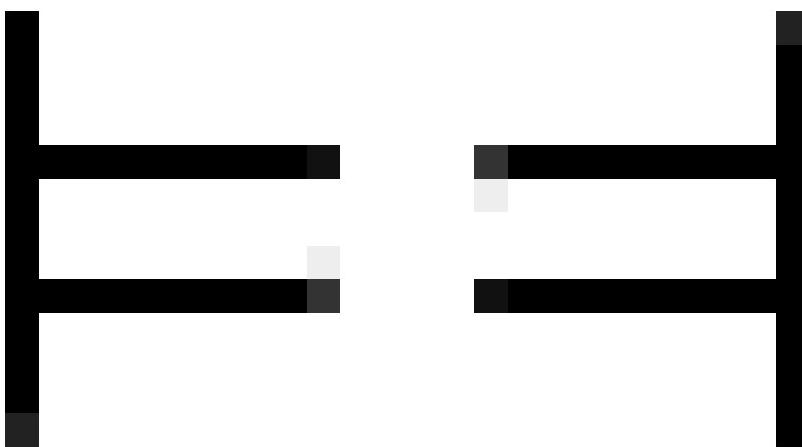


Figure 24 is equivalent to

$$Q \wedge P$$

$$P \vee Q$$

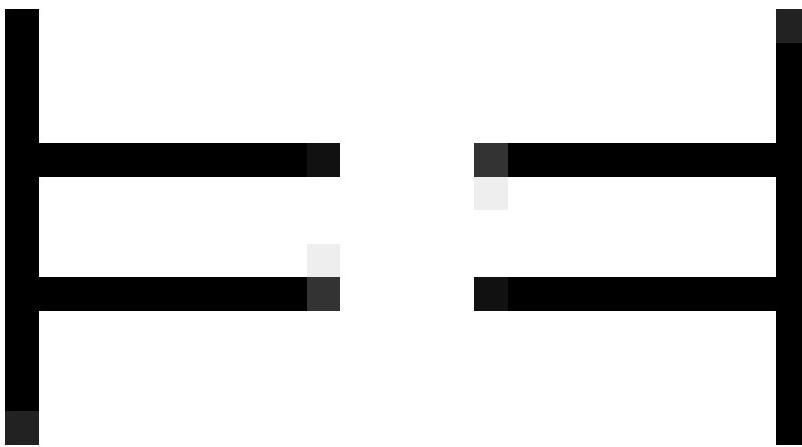


Figure 25 is equivalent to

$$Q \vee P$$

$$P \leftrightarrow Q$$

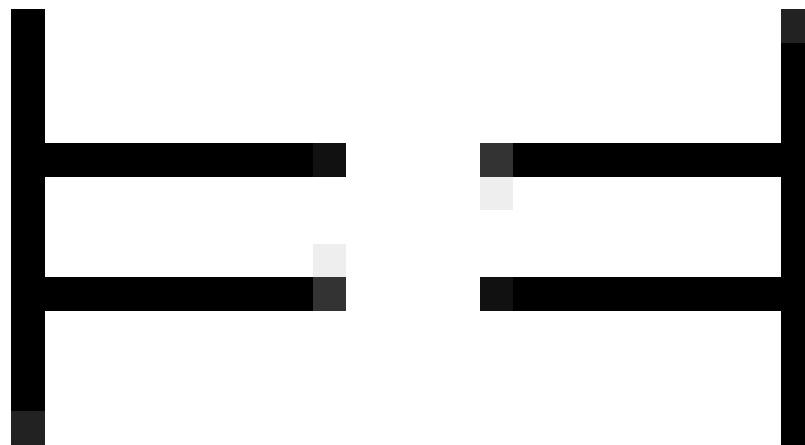


Figure 26 is equivalent to

$$Q \leftrightarrow P$$

8.2.3 Associativity

Conjunction, disjunction, and biconditional (but not conditional) are associative.

$$(P \wedge Q) \wedge R$$

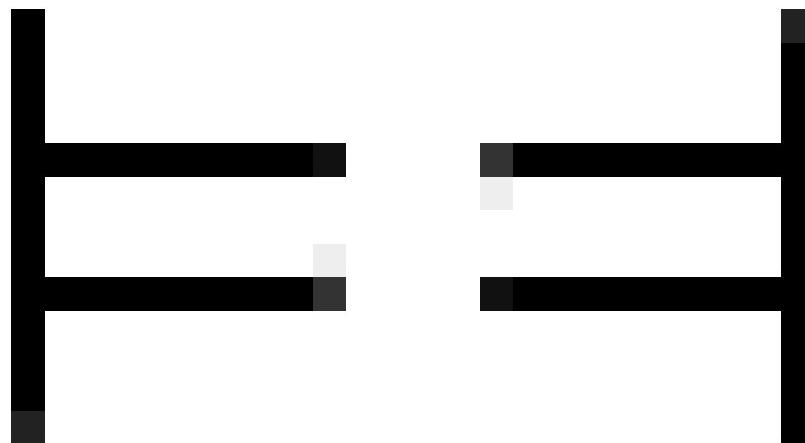


Figure 27 is equivalent to

$$P \wedge (Q \wedge R)$$

$$(P \vee Q) \vee R$$

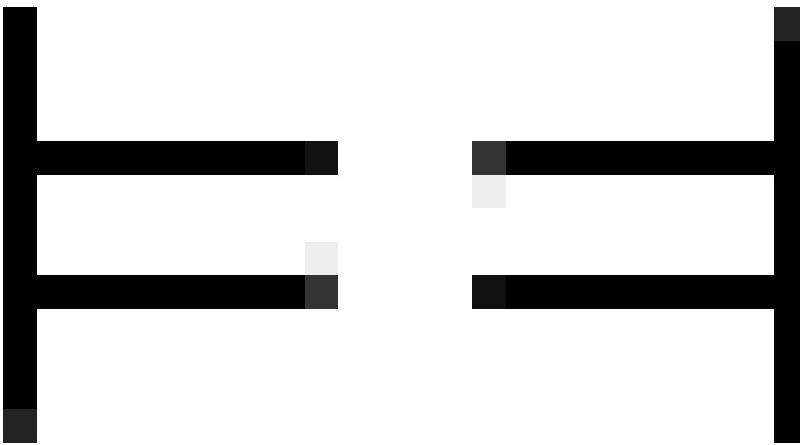


Figure 28 is equivalent to

$$P \vee (Q \vee R)$$

$$(P \leftrightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow R$$

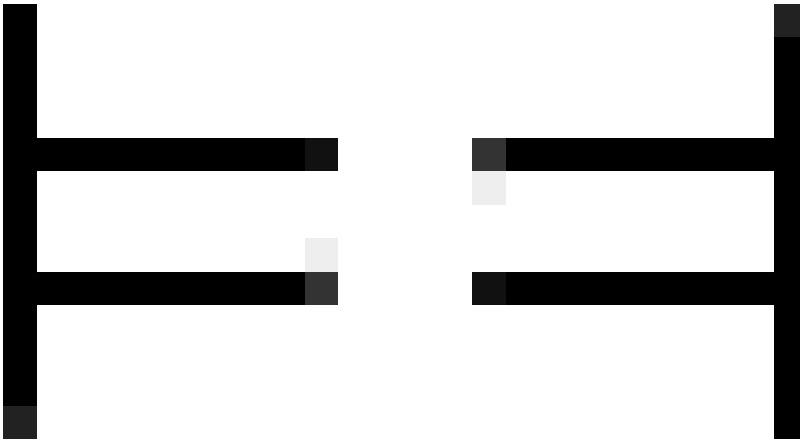


Figure 29 is equivalent to

$$P \leftrightarrow (Q \leftrightarrow R)$$

8.2.4 Distribution

We list ten distribution laws. Of these, probably the most important are that conjunction and disjunction distribute over each other and that conditional distributes over itself.

$$P \wedge (Q \wedge R)$$

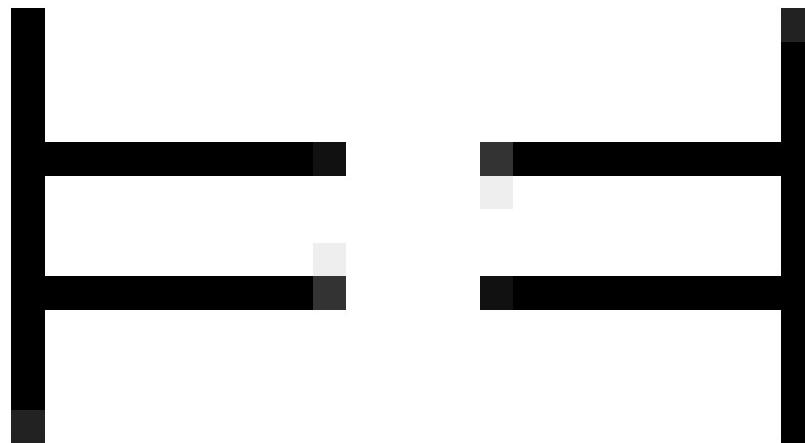


Figure 30 is equivalent to

$$(P \wedge Q) \wedge (P \wedge R)$$

$$P \wedge (Q \vee R)$$

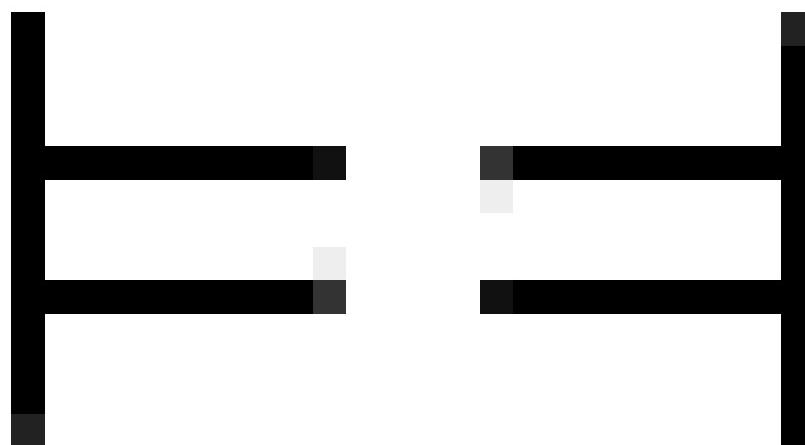


Figure 31 is equivalent to

$$(P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R)$$

$$P \vee (Q \wedge R)$$

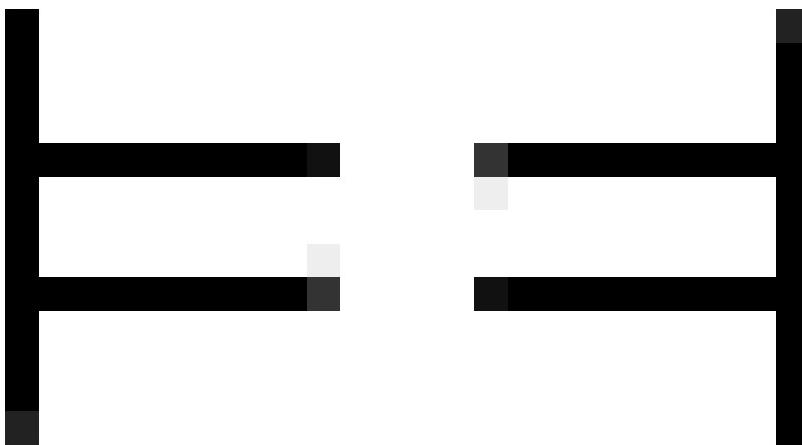


Figure 32 is equivalent to

$$(P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R)$$

$$P \vee (Q \vee R)$$

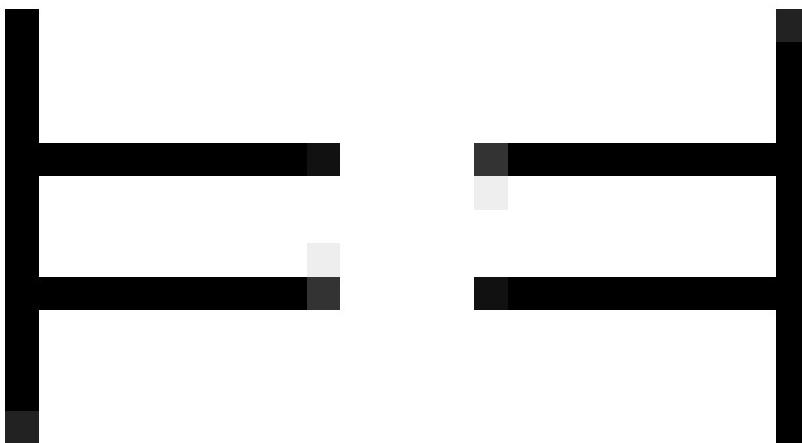


Figure 33 is equivalent to

$$(P \vee Q) \vee (P \vee R)$$

$$P \vee (Q \rightarrow R)$$

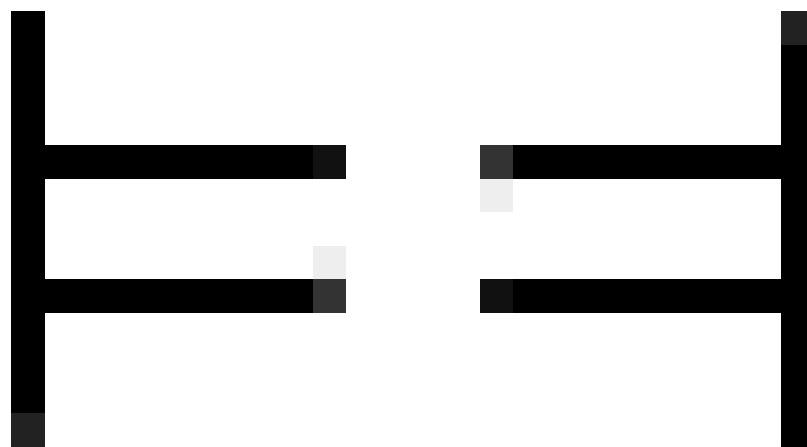


Figure 34 is equivalent to

$$(P \vee Q) \rightarrow (P \vee R)$$

$$P \vee (Q \leftrightarrow R)$$

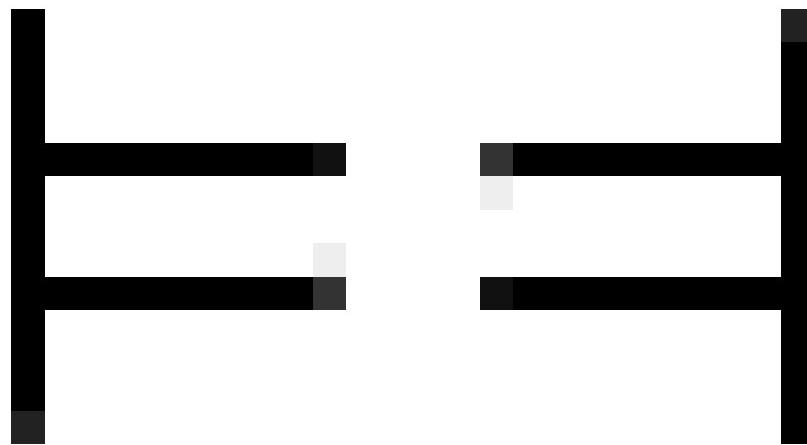


Figure 35 is equivalent to

$$(P \vee Q) \leftrightarrow (P \vee R)$$

$$P \rightarrow (Q \wedge R)$$

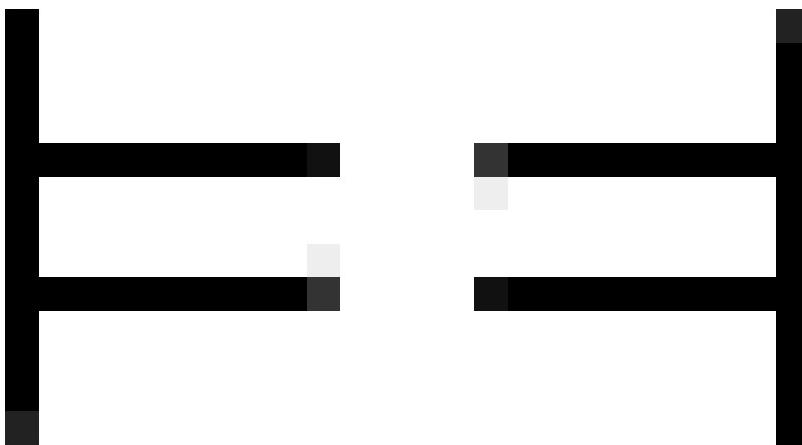


Figure 36 is equivalent to

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (P \rightarrow R)$$

$$P \rightarrow (Q \vee R)$$

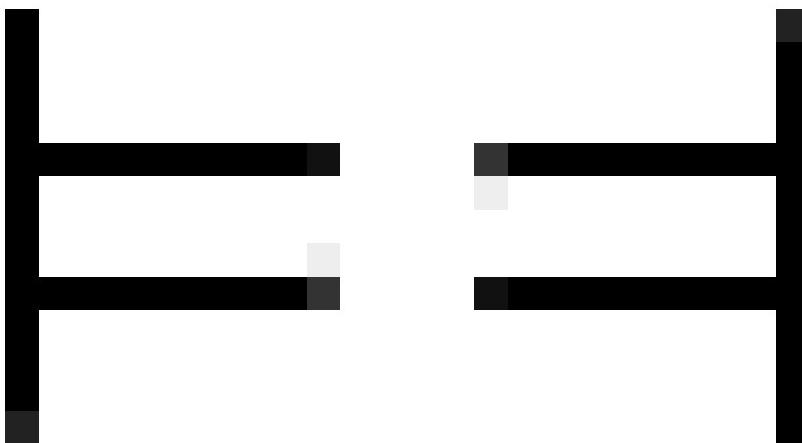


Figure 37 is equivalent to

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \vee (P \rightarrow R)$$

$$P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow R)$$

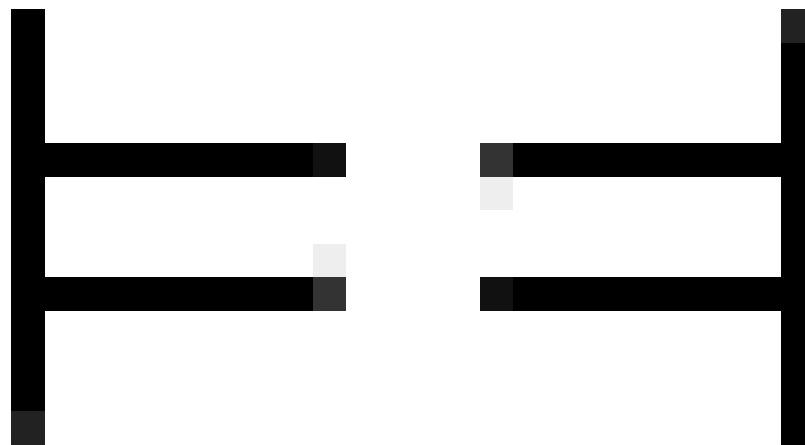


Figure 38 is equivalent to

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow (P \rightarrow R)$$

$$P \rightarrow (Q \leftrightarrow R)$$

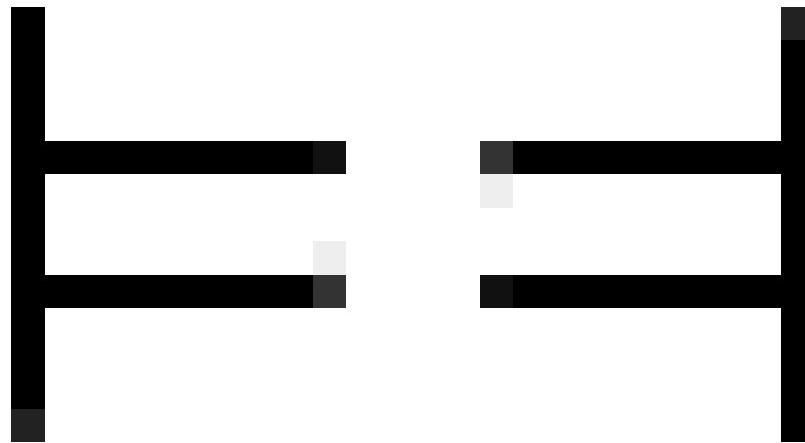


Figure 39 is equivalent to

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \leftrightarrow (P \rightarrow R)$$

8.2.5 Transitivity

Conjunction, conditional, and biconditional (but not disjunction) are transitive.

$$\models (P \wedge Q) \wedge (Q \wedge R) \rightarrow P \wedge R$$

$$\models (P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow R) \rightarrow (P \rightarrow R)$$

$$\models (P \leftrightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \leftrightarrow R) \rightarrow (P \leftrightarrow R)$$

8.3 Other tautologies and equivalences

8.3.1 Conditionals

These tautologies and equivalences are mostly about conditionals.

$$\models P \wedge Q \rightarrow P \qquad \models P \wedge Q \rightarrow Q$$

$$\models P \rightarrow P \vee Q \qquad \models Q \rightarrow P \vee Q$$

$$\models (P \rightarrow Q) \vee (Q \rightarrow R)$$

$$\models \neg P \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q) \quad \textit{Conditional addition}$$

$$\models Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q) \quad \textit{Conditional addition}$$

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

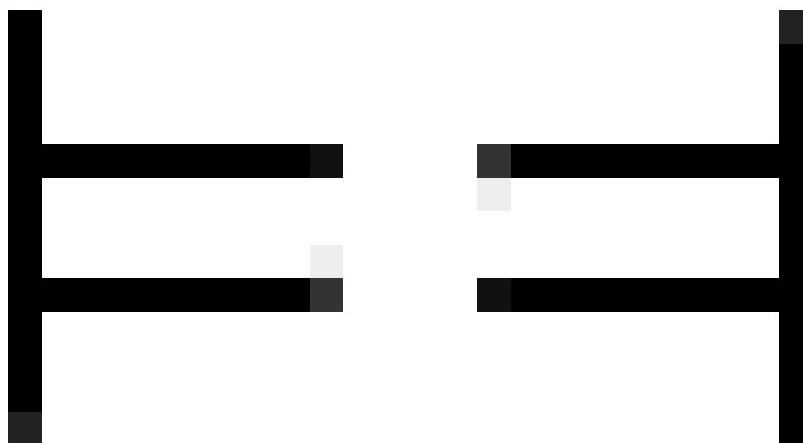
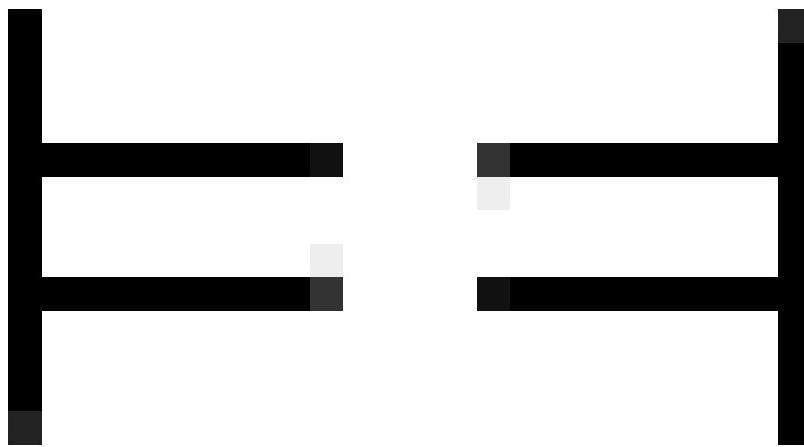


Figure 40 is equivalent to

$$\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P \quad \textit{Contraposition}$$

$$P \wedge Q \rightarrow R$$

**Figure 41** is equivalent to

$$P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow R) \quad \text{Exportation}$$

8.3.2 Biconditionals

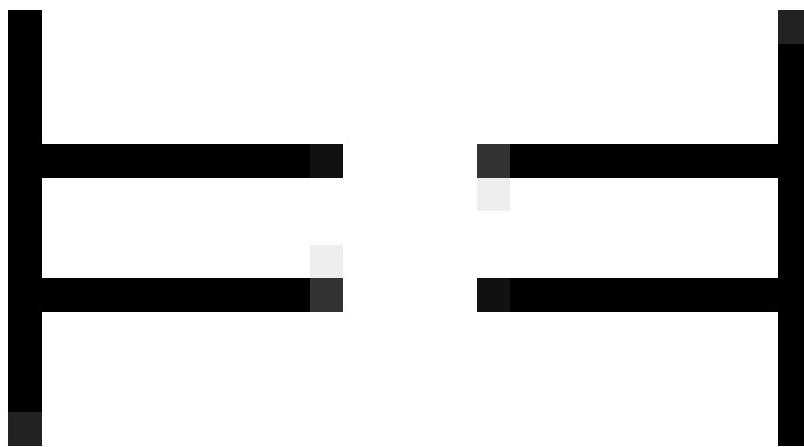
These tautologies and equivalences are mostly about biconditionals.

$$\models P \wedge Q \rightarrow (P \leftrightarrow Q) \quad \text{Biconditional addition}$$

$$\models \neg P \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow (P \leftrightarrow Q) \quad \text{Biconditional addition}$$

$$\models (P \leftrightarrow Q) \vee (P \leftrightarrow \neg Q)$$

$$\neg(P \leftrightarrow Q)$$

**Figure 42** is equivalent to

$$\neg P \leftrightarrow Q$$

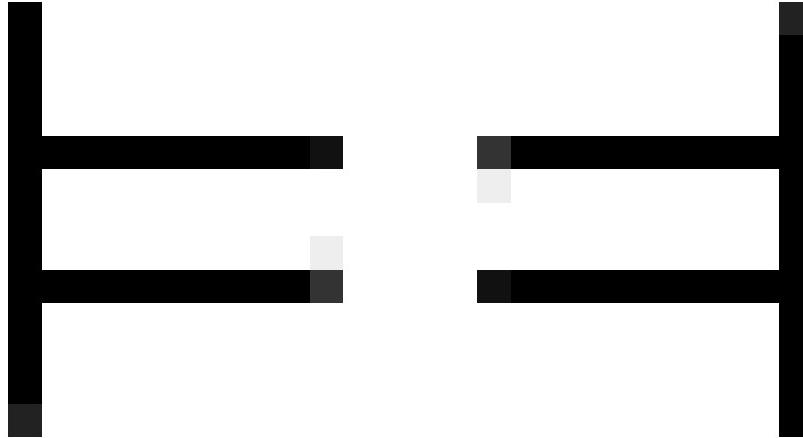


Figure 43 is equivalent to

$$P \leftrightarrow \neg Q$$

8.3.3 Miscellaneous

We repeat DeMorgan's Laws from the Interdefinability of connectives² section of Expressibility³ and add two additional forms. We also list some additional tautologies and equivalences.

$$\models P \leftrightarrow P \wedge P \quad \textit{Idempotence}^4 \textit{ for conjunction}$$

$$\models P \leftrightarrow P \vee P \quad \textit{Idempotence for disjunction}$$

$$\models P \rightarrow P \vee Q \quad \textit{Disjunctive addition}$$

$$\models Q \rightarrow P \vee Q \quad \textit{Disjunctive addition}$$

$$\models P \wedge \neg P \rightarrow Q$$

$$P \wedge Q$$

² Chapter 7.4 on page 57

³ Chapter 6.6 on page 49

⁴ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Idempotence>

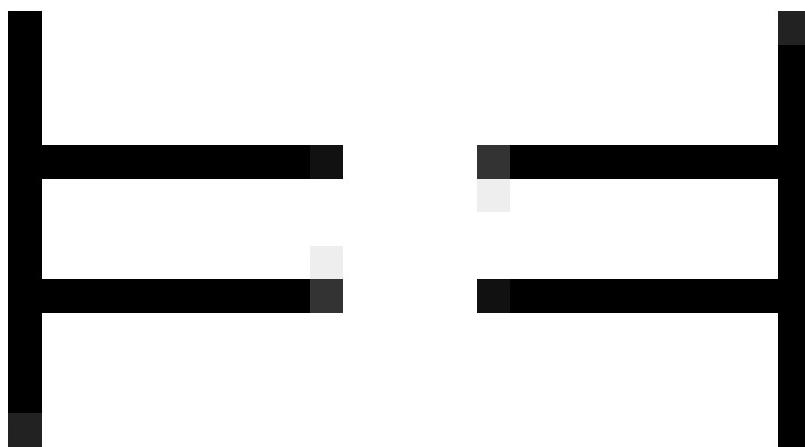


Figure 44

$$\neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q) \quad \text{DeMorgan's Laws}$$

$$P \wedge Q$$

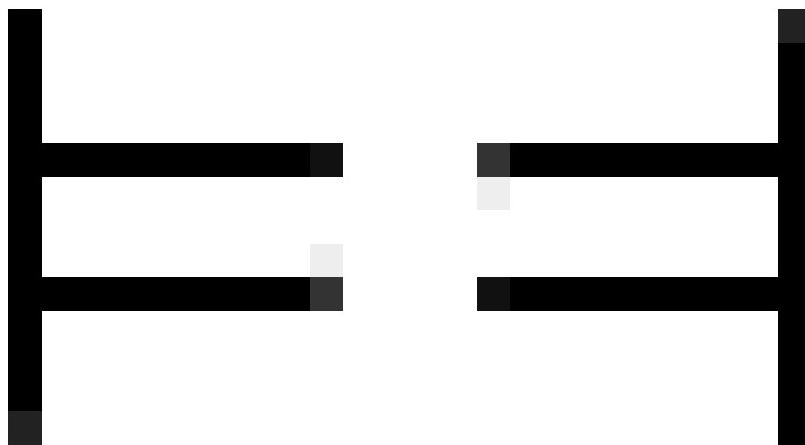


Figure 45

$$\neg(\neg P \wedge \neg Q) \quad \text{DeMorgan's Laws}$$

$$\neg(P \wedge Q)$$

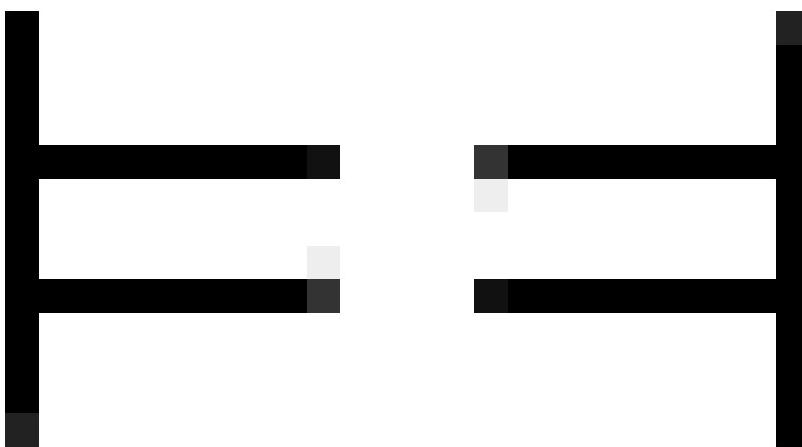


Figure 46

$$\begin{aligned} \neg P \vee \neg Q & \quad \textit{Demorgan's Laws} \\ \neg(P \vee Q) \end{aligned}$$

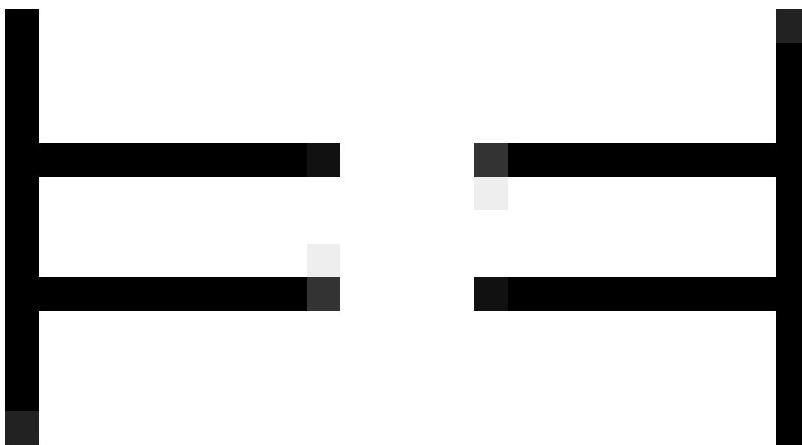


Figure 47

$$\begin{aligned} \neg P \wedge \neg Q & \quad \textit{Demorgan's Laws} \\ P \end{aligned}$$

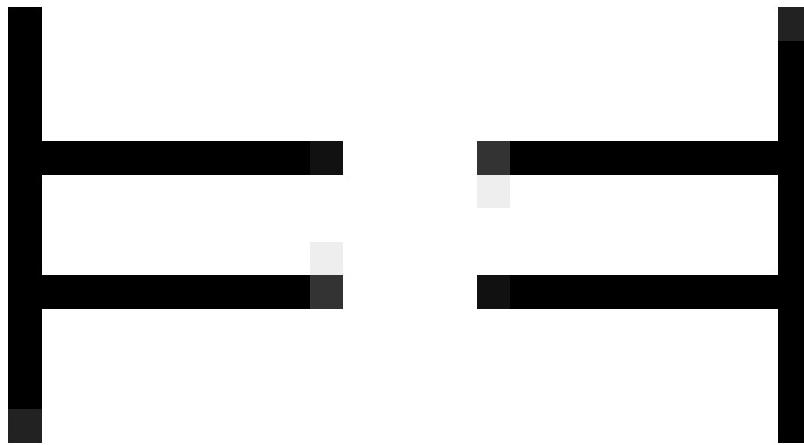


Figure 48 is equivalent to

$\neg\neg P$ *Double Negation*

8.4 Deduction and reduction principles

The following two principles will be used in constructing our derivation system on a later page. They can easily be proven, but—since they are neither tautologies nor equivalences—it takes more than a mere truth table to do so. We will not attempt the proof here.

8.4.1 Deduction principle

Let φ and ψ both be formulae, and let Γ be a set of formulae.

If $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \vDash \psi$, then $\Gamma \vDash (\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$

8.4.2 Reduction principle

Let φ and ψ both be formulae, and let Γ be a set of formulae.

If $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \vDash \psi$ and $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \vDash \neg\psi$, then $\Gamma \vDash \neg\varphi$,

If $\Gamma \cup \{\neg\varphi\} \vDash \psi$ and $\Gamma \cup \{\neg\varphi\} \vDash \neg\psi$, then $\Gamma \vDash \varphi$

9 Substitution and Interchange

This page will use the notions of *occurrence* and *subformula* introduced at the Additional terminology¹ section of Formal Syntax². These notions have been little used if at all since then, so you might want to review them.

9.1 Substitution

9.1.1 Tautological forms

We have introduced a number of tautologies, one example being

$$(1) \quad Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)$$

This has the (informally written) form

$$(2) \quad \psi \rightarrow (\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

As it turns out, any formula matching this form is a tautology. Thus, for example,

$$(3) \quad R \wedge S \rightarrow (P \vee Q \rightarrow R \wedge S)$$

is a tautology. This process is general. Take any tautology. Find its most fully explicitly form by uniformly replacing distinct sentence letters with distinct Greek letters. We can call this a *tautological form*, which will not be a formula but rather a metalogical expression. Any instance of this tautological form is a tautology.

9.1.2 Substitution instances

The preceding illustrated how we can generate new tautologies from old ones via tautological forms. Here, we will show how to generate tautologies without resort to tautological forms. To do this, we will define a substitution instance of a formula. Any substitution instance of a tautology is also a tautology.

First, we define the simple substitution instance of a formula for a sentence letter. Let φ and ψ be formulae and π be a sentence letter. The *simple substitution instance* $\varphi[\pi/\psi]$ is the result of replacing *every* occurrence of π in φ with an occurrence of ψ . A *substitution instance of formulae for a sentence letters* is the result of a chain of simple substitution instances. In particular, a chain of zero simple substitutions instances starting from φ is

1 Chapter 3.5 on page 19

2 Chapter 2.4 on page 15

a substitution instance and indeed is just φ itself. Thus, any formula is a substitution instance of itself.

It turns out that if φ is a tautology, then so is any simple substitution instance $\varphi[\pi/\psi]$. If we start with a tautology and generate a chain of simple substitution instances, then every formula in the chain is also a tautology. Thus any (not necessarily simple) substitution instance of a tautology is also a tautology.

9.1.3 Substitution examples

Consider (1) again. We substitute $R \wedge S$ for every occurrence of Q in (1). This gives us the following simple substitution instance of (1):

$$(4) \quad R \wedge S \rightarrow (P \rightarrow R \wedge S)$$

In this, we substitute $P \vee Q$ for P . That gives us (3) as a simple substitution instance of (4). Since (3) is the result of a chain of two simple substitution instances, it is a (non-simple) substitution instance of (1). Since (1) is a tautology, so is (3). We can express the chain of substitutions as

$$Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)[Q/R \wedge S][P/P \vee Q]$$

Take another example, also starting from (1). We want to obtain

$$(5) \quad P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow P)$$

Our first attempt won't work. First we substitute Q for P obtaining

$$Q \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow Q)$$

Next we substitute P for Q obtaining

$$(6) \quad P \rightarrow (P \rightarrow P)$$

This is indeed a tautology, but it is not the one we wanted. Let's try again. In (1), we substitute R for P obtaining

$$Q \rightarrow (R \rightarrow Q)$$

Now substitute P for Q obtaining

$$P \rightarrow (R \rightarrow P)$$

Finally, substituting Q for R gets us the result we wanted, namely (5). Since (1) is a tautology, so is (5). We can express the chain of substitutions as

$$Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)[P/R][Q/P][R/Q]$$

9.1.4 Simultaneous substitutions

We can compress a chain of simple substitutions into a single complex substitution. Let $\varphi, \psi_1, \psi_2, \dots$ be formulae; let π_1, π_2, \dots be sentence letters. We define a *simultaneous substitution instance of formulas for sentence letters* $\varphi[\pi_1/\psi_1, \pi_2/\psi_2, \dots]$ be the result of starting with φ and simultaneously replacing π_1 with ψ_1, π_2 with ψ_2, \dots . We can regenerate our examples.

The previously generated formula (3) is

$$Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)[P/P \vee Q, Q/R \wedge S]$$

Similarly, (5) is

$$Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)[P/Q, Q/P]$$

Finally (6) is

$$Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)[Q/P]$$

When we get to predicate logic, simultaneous substitution instances will not be available. That is why we defined *substitution instance* by reference to a chain of simple substitution instances rather than as a simultaneous substitution instance.

9.2 Interchange

9.2.1 Interchange of equivalent subformulae

We previously saw the following equivalence at Properties of Sentential Connectives³:

$$(7) \quad P$$

³ Chapter 8.3.3 on page 84

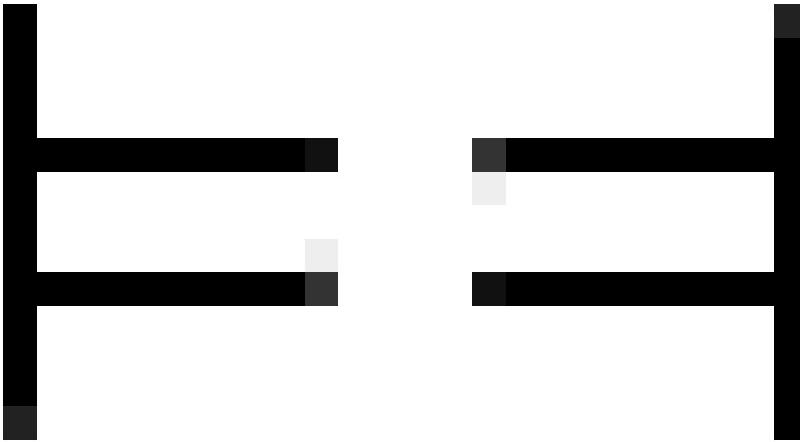


Figure 49 is equivalent to

$$\neg\neg P$$

You then might expect the following equivalence:

$$P \rightarrow Q \wedge R$$

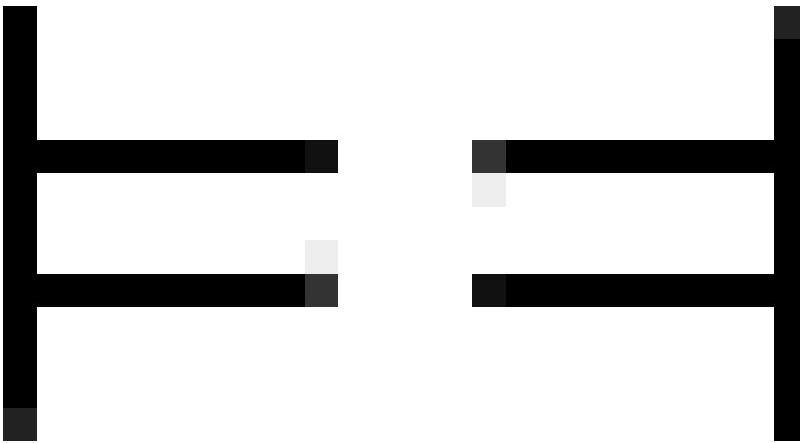


Figure 50 is equivalent to

$$\neg\neg(P \rightarrow Q \wedge R)$$

This expectation is correct; the two formulae are equivalent. Let φ and ψ be equivalent formulae. Let χ_1 be a formula in which φ occurs as a subformula. Finally, let χ_2 be the result of replacing in χ at least one (not necessarily all) occurrences of φ with ψ . Then χ_1 and χ_2 are equivalent. This replacement is called an *interchange*.

For a second example, suppose we want to generate the equivalence

$$(8) \quad P \rightarrow Q \wedge R$$

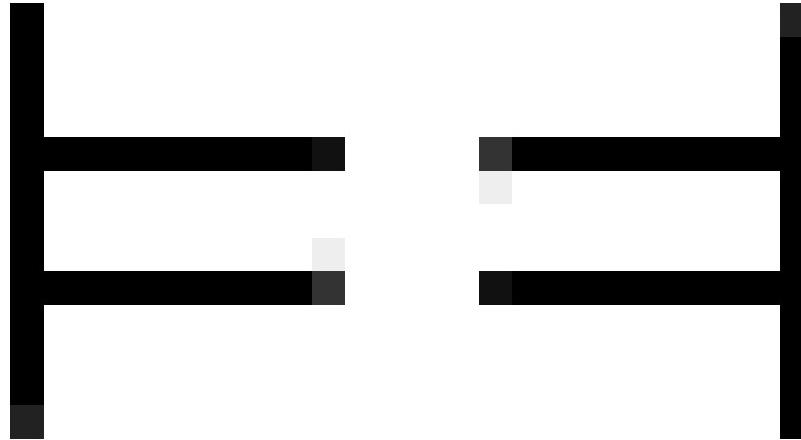


Figure 51 is equivalent to

$$P \rightarrow \neg\neg(Q \wedge R)$$

We note the following equivalence:

$$(9) \quad Q \wedge R$$

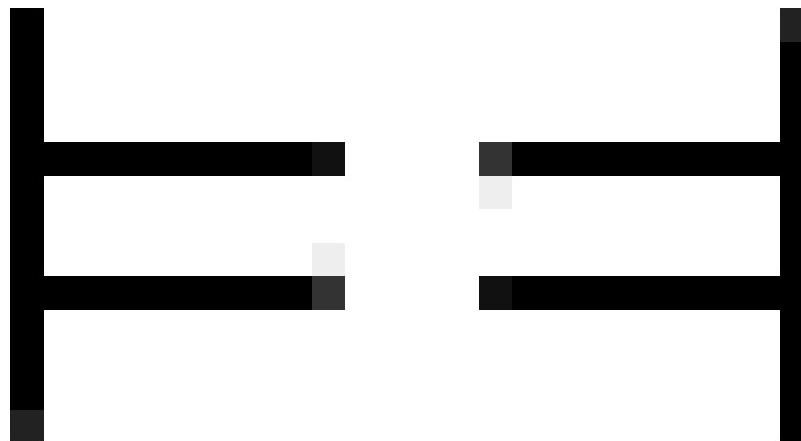


Figure 52 is equivalent to

$$\neg\neg(Q \wedge R)$$

These two formulae can be confirmed to be equivalent either by truth table or, more easily, by substituting $Q \wedge R$ for P in both formulae of (7).

This substitution does indeed establish (9) as an equivalence. We already noted that φ and ψ are equivalent if and only if $\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$ is a tautology. Based on (7), we get the tautology

$$P \leftrightarrow \neg\neg P$$

Our substitution then yields

$$Q \wedge R \leftrightarrow \neg\neg(Q \wedge R)$$

which is also a tautology. The corresponding equivalence is then (9).

Based on (9), we can now replace the consequent of $P \rightarrow Q \wedge R$ with its equivalent. This generates the desired equivalence, namely (8).

Every formula equivalent to a tautology is also a tautology. Thus an interchange of equivalent subformulae within a tautology results in a tautology. For example, we can use the substitution instance of (7):

Q

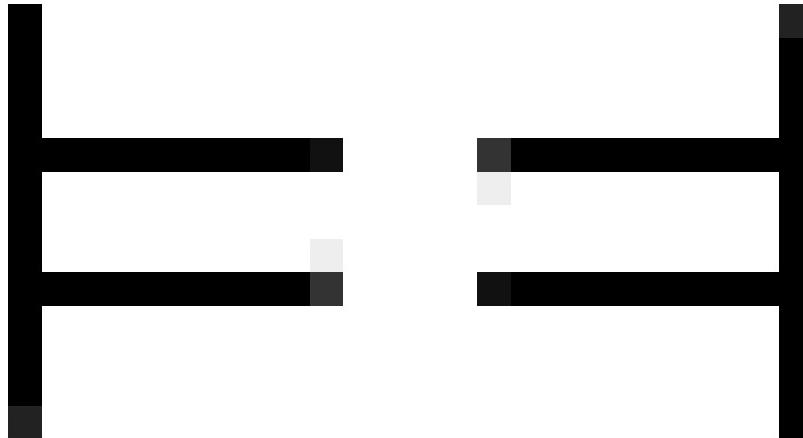


Figure 53 is equivalent to

$$\neg\neg Q$$

together with the tautology previously seen at Properties of Sentential Connectives⁴:

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \vee (Q \rightarrow R)$$

⁴ Chapter 8.3.1 on page 82

to obtain

$$(P \rightarrow \neg\neg Q) \vee (Q \rightarrow R)$$

as a new tautology.

9.2.2 Interchange example

As an example, we will use the interdefinability of connectives⁵ to express

$$(10) \quad P \leftrightarrow Q \vee R$$

using only conditionals and negations.

Based on

$$P \vee Q$$

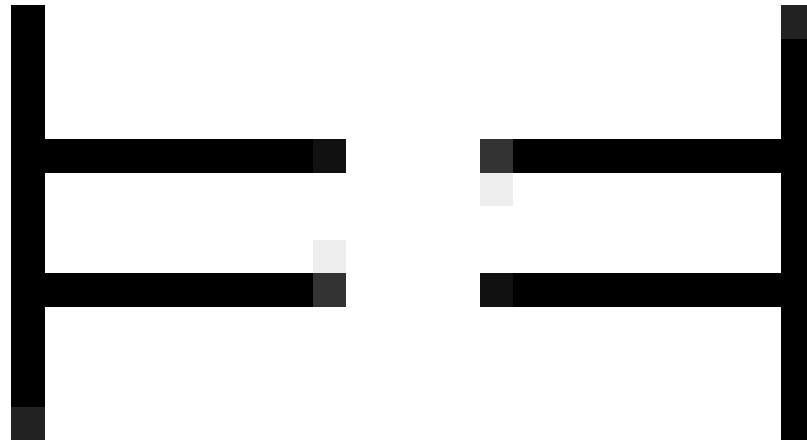


Figure 54 is equivalent to

$$\neg P \rightarrow Q$$

we get the substitution instance

$$Q \vee R$$

⁵ Chapter 7.4 on page 57

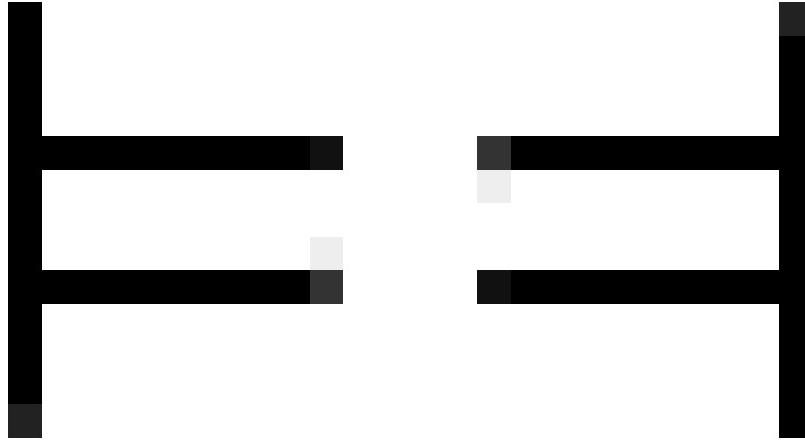


Figure 55 is equivalent to

$$\neg Q \rightarrow R$$

which in turn allows us to replace the appropriate subformula in (10) to get:

$$(11) \quad P \leftrightarrow \neg Q \rightarrow R$$

The equivalence

$$P \leftrightarrow Q$$

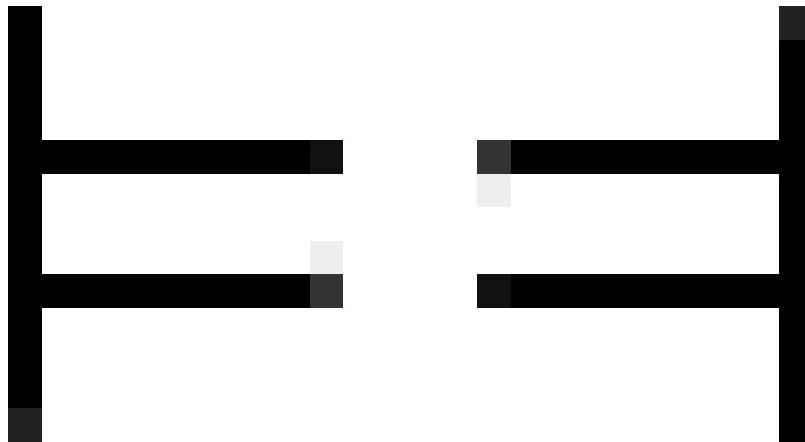


Figure 56 is equivalent to

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)$$

together with the appropriate substitution gives us

$$(12) \quad (P \rightarrow (\neg Q \rightarrow R)) \wedge ((\neg Q \rightarrow R) \rightarrow P)$$

as equivalent to (11).

Finally, applying

$$P \wedge Q$$

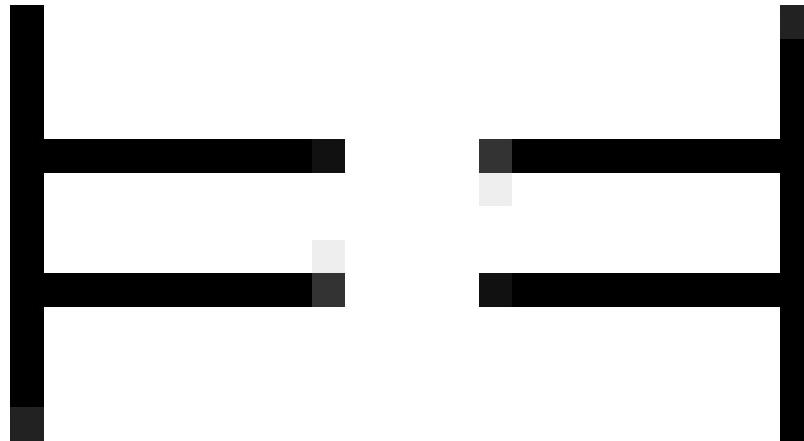


Figure 57

$$\neg(P \rightarrow \neg Q)$$

together with the appropriate substitution, yields our final result:

$$\neg(P \rightarrow (\neg Q \rightarrow R)) \rightarrow \neg((\neg Q \rightarrow R) \rightarrow P))$$

9.3 Summary

This page has presented two claims.

- A substitution instance of a tautology is also a tautology.
- Given a formula, the result of interchanging a subformula with an equivalent is a formula equivalent to the given formula.

These claims are not trivial observations or the result of a simple truth table. They are substantial claims that need proof. Proofs are available in a number of standard metalogic textbooks, but are not presented here.

10 Translations

The page The Sentential Language¹ gave a very brief look at translation between English and \mathcal{L}_S . We look at this in more detail here.

10.1 English sentential connectives

In the following discussion, we will assume the following assignment of English sentences to \mathcal{L}_S sentence letters:

P : 2 is a prime number.

Q : 2 is an even number.

R : 3 is an even number.

10.1.1 Not

The canonical translation of \neg into English is 'it is not the case that'. Given the assignment above,

(1) $\neg P$

translates as

It is not the case that 2 is a prime number.

But we usually express negation in English simply by 'not' or by adding the contraction 'n't' to the end of a word. Thus (1) can also translate either of:

2 is not a prime number.

2 isn't a prime number.

10.1.2 If

The canonical translation of \rightarrow into English is 'if ... then ...'. Thus

(2) $P \rightarrow Q$

translates into English as

(3) If 2 is a prime number, then 2 is an even number.

¹ Chapter 1.3.3 on page 9

Objections have been raised to the canonical translation, and our example may illustrate the problem. It may seem odd to count (3) as true; however, our semantic rules does indeed count (2) as true (because both P and Q are true). We might expect that, if a conditional and its antecedent are true, the consequent is true *because* the antecedent is. Perhaps we expect a general rule

- (4) if x is a prime number, then x is an even number

to be true—but this rule is clearly false. In any case, we often expect the truth of the antecedent (if it is indeed true) to be somehow *relevant* to the truth of the conclusion (if that is indeed true). (2) is an exception to the usual relevance of a number being prime to a number being even.

The \rightarrow conditional of \mathcal{L}_S is called the *material conditional* in contrast to strict conditional² or counterfactual conditional³. Relevance logic⁴ attempts to define a conditional which meets these objections. See also the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy entry on relevance logic⁵.

It is generally accepted today that not all aspects of an expression's linguistic use are part of its linguistic meaning. Some have suggested that the objections to reading 'if' as a material conditional are based on *conversational implicature* and so not based on the meaning of 'if'. See the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy entry on implicature⁶ for more information. As much as a simplifying assumption than anything else, we will adopt this point of view. We can also point out in our defense that translations need not be exact to be useful. Even if our simplifying assumption is incorrect, \rightarrow is still the closest expression we have in \mathcal{L}_S to 'if'. It should also be noted that, in mathematical statements and proofs, mathematicians *always* use 'if' as a material conditional. They accept (2) and (3) as translations of each other and do not find it odd to count (3) as true.

'If' can occur at the beginning of the conditional or in the middle. The 'then' can be missing. Thus both of the following (in addition to (3)) translate as (2).

If 2 is a prime number, 2 is an even number.

2 is an even number if 2 is a prime number.

10.1.3 Implies

We do not translate 'implies' into \mathcal{L}_S . In particular, we reject

2 is a prime number implies 2 is an even number.

as grammatically ill-formed and therefore not translatable as (2). See the Implication⁷ section of Validity⁸ for more details.

2 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strict%20conditional>

3 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counterfactual%20conditional>

4 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relevance%20logic>

5 <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/logic-relevance/>

6 <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/implicature/>

7 Chapter 6.6 on page 49

8 Chapter 6.2 on page 45

10.1.4 Only if

The English

(5) 2 is a prime number only if 2 is an even number

is equivalent to the English

If 2 is not an even number, then 2 is not a prime number.

This, in turn, translates into \mathcal{L}_S as

(6) $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$

We saw at Conditionals⁹ section of Properties of Sentential Connectives¹⁰ that (6) is equivalent to

(7) $P \rightarrow Q$

Many logic books give this as the preferred translation of (5) into \mathcal{L}_S . This allows the convenient rule "if" always introduces an antecedent while "only if" always introduces a consequent'.

Like 'if', 'only if' can appear in either the first or middle position of a conditional. (5) is equivalent to

Only if 2 is an even number, is 2 a prime number.

10.1.5 Provided that

'Provided that'—and similar expressions such as 'given that' and 'assuming that'—can be used equivalently with 'if'. Thus each of the following translate into \mathcal{L}_S as (2).

2 is an even number provided that 2 is a prime number.

2 is an even number assuming that 2 is a prime number.

Provided that 2 is a prime number, 2 is an even number.

Prefixing 'provided that' with 'only' works the same as prefixing 'if' with 'only'. Thus each of the following translate into \mathcal{L}_S as (6) or (7).

2 is a prime number only provided that 2 is an even number.

2 is a prime number only assuming that 2 is an even number.

Only provided that 2 is an even number, is 2 a prime number

10.1.6 Or

The canonical translation of \vee into English is '[either] ... or ...' (where the 'either' is optional). Thus

⁹ Chapter 8.3.1 on page 82

¹⁰ Chapter 7.5.2 on page 71

$$(8) \quad P \vee Q$$

translates into English as

$$(9) \quad 2 \text{ is a prime number or } 2 \text{ is an even number}$$

or

Either 2 is a prime number or 2 is an even number.

We saw at the Interdefinability of connectives¹¹ section of Expressibility¹² that (8) is equivalent to

$$\neg P \rightarrow Q$$

Just as there were objections to understanding 'if' as \rightarrow , there are similar objections to understanding 'or' as \vee . We will again make the simplifying assumption that we can ignore these objections.

The English 'or' has both an inclusive and—perhaps somewhat more controversially—an exclusive use. The *inclusive or* is true when at least one disjunct is true; the *exclusive or* is true when exactly one disjunct is true. Our \vee matches the inclusive use. The inclusive use becomes especially apparent in negations. If President Bush promises not to invade Iran or North Korea, not even the best Republican spin doctors will claim he can keep his promise by invading both. The exclusive reading of (9) translates into \mathcal{L}_S as

$$(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg(P \wedge Q)$$

or more simply (and less intuitively) as

$$P \leftrightarrow \neg Q$$

In English, telescoping is possible with 'or'. Thus, (8) translates

2 is either a prime number or an even number.

Similarly,

$$Q \vee R$$

translates

2 or 3 is an even number.

¹¹ Chapter 7.4 on page 57

¹² Chapter 6.6 on page 49

10.1.7 Unless

'Unless' has the same meaning as 'if not'. Thus

$$(10) \quad \neg Q \rightarrow P$$

translates

$$(11) \quad 2 \text{ is a prime number unless } 2 \text{ is an even number}$$

and

$$(12) \quad \text{Unless } 2 \text{ is an even number, } 2 \text{ is a prime number.}$$

We saw at the Interdefinability of connectives¹³ section of Expressibility¹⁴ that (10) is equivalent to (8). Many logic books give (8) as the preferred translation of (11) or (12) into \mathcal{L}_S .

10.1.8 Nor

At the Joint denial¹⁵ section of Expressibility¹⁶, we temporarily added \downarrow to \mathcal{L}_S as the connective for joint denial. If we had that connective still available to us, we could translate

Neither 2 is a prime number nor 2 is an even number

as

$$P \downarrow Q$$

However, since \downarrow is not really in the vocabulary of \mathcal{L}_S , we need to paraphrase. Either of the following will do:

$$(13) \quad \neg(P \vee Q).$$

$$(14) \quad (\neg P \wedge \neg Q).$$

The same telescoping applies as with 'or'.

2 is neither a prime number nor an even number

translates into \mathcal{L}_S as either (13) or (14). Similarly,

Neither 2 nor 3 is an even number

translates as either of

$$\neg(Q \vee R)$$

13 Chapter 7.4 on page 57

14 Chapter 6.6 on page 49

15 Chapter 7.5.2 on page 67

16 Chapter 6.6 on page 49

$$(\neg Q \wedge \neg R)$$

10.1.9 And

The canonical translation of \wedge into English is '[both] ... and ...' (where the 'both' is optional'). Thus

$$(15) \quad P \wedge Q$$

translates into English as

2 is a prime number and 2 is an even number

or

Both 2 is a prime number and 2 is an even number.

Our translation of 'and' as \wedge is not particularly controversial. However, 'and' is sometimes used to convey temporal order. The two sentences

She got married and got pregnant.

She got pregnant and got married.

are generally heard rather differently.

'And' has the same telescoping as 'or'.

2 is a both prime number and an even number

translates into \mathcal{L}_S as (15)

Both 2 and 3 are even numbers

translates as

$$Q \wedge R$$

10.1.10 If and only if

The canonical translation of \leftrightarrow into English is '... if and only if ...'. Thus

$$(16) \quad P \leftrightarrow Q$$

translates into English as

2 is a prime number if and only if 2 is an even number.

The English

$$(17) \quad 2 \text{ is a prime number if and only if } 2 \text{ is an even number}$$

is a shortened form of

2 is a prime number if 2 is an even number, and 2 is a prime number only if 2 is an even number

which translates as

$$(Q \rightarrow P) \wedge (\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P))$$

or more perspicuously as the equivalent formula

$$(18) \quad (P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)).$$

We saw at the Interdefinability of connectives¹⁷ section of Expressibility¹⁸ that (18) is equivalent to (16). Issues concerning the material versus non-material interpretations of 'if' apply to 'if and only if' as well.

10.1.11 Iff

Mathematicians and sometimes others use 'iff' as an abbreviated form of 'if and only if'. So

2 is a prime number iff 2 is an even number

abbreviates (17) and translates as (16).

10.2 Examples

¹⁷ Chapter 7.4 on page 57

¹⁸ Chapter 6.6 on page 49

11 Derivations

11.1 Derivations

At Validity¹, we introduced the notion of *validity* for formulae and for arguments. In sentential logic, a valid formula is a tautology.

Up to now, we could show a formula φ to be valid (a tautology) in the following ways.

- Do a truth table for φ .
- Obtain φ as a substitution instance of a formula already known to be valid.
- Obtain φ by applying interchange of equivalents to a formula already known to be valid.

Truth tables become unavailable in predicate logic. Without an alternate method, there will be no way of getting the second two methods started since they need already known validities to work. Derivations provide such an alternate method for showing a formula valid, a method that continues to work even after truth tables become unavailable. This page, together with the several following it, introduce this technique. Note, the claim that a derivation shows an argument valid assumes a sound derivation system, see *soundness* below.

A derivation is a series of numbered lines, each line consisting of a formula with an annotation. The annotations provide the justification for adding the line to the derivation. A derivation is a highly formalized analogue to—or perhaps a model of—a mathematical proof.

A typical derivation system will allow some of the following types of lines:

- A line may be an axiom. The derivation system may specify a set of formulae as axioms. These are accepted as true for any derivation. For sentential logic the set of axioms is a fixed subset of tautologies.
- A line may be an assumption. A derivation may have several types of assumptions. The following cover the standard cases.
 - A premise. When attempting to show the validity of an argument, a premise of that argument may be assumed.
 - A temporary assumption for use in a subderivation. Such assumptions are intended to be active for only part of a derivation and must be discharged (made inactive) before the derivation is considered complete. Subderivations will be introduced on a later page.
 - A line may result from applying an inference rule to previous lines. An *inference* is a syntactic transformation of previous lines to generate a new line. Inferences are required

¹ Chapter 6.2 on page 45

to follow one of a fixed set of patterns defined by the derivation system. These patterns are the system's *inference rules*. The idea is that any inference fitting an inference rule should be a valid argument.

11.2 Soundness and validity

We noted at Formal Semantics² that a formal language such as \mathcal{L}_S can be interpreted via several alternative and even competing semantic rule-sets. Multiple derivation systems can be also defined for a given syntax-semantics pair. A triple consisting of a formal syntax, a formal semantics, and a derivation system is a *logical system*.

A derivation is intended to show an argument to be valid. A derivation of a zero-premise argument is intended to show its conclusion to be a valid formula—in sentential logic this means showing it to be a tautology. These are the intentions. Given a logical system, the derivation system is *sound* if and only if it achieves this goal. That is, a derivation system is *sound* (has the property of *soundness*) if and only if every formula (and argument) derivable in its derivation system is valid (given a syntax and a semantics).

Another desirable quality of a derivation system is completeness. Given a logical system, its derivation system is *complete* if and only if every valid formula is derivable. However, there are some logics for which no derivation system is or can be complete.

Soundness and completeness are metalogic substantial results. Their proofs will not be given here, but are available in many standard metalogic text books.

11.3 Turnstiles

The \models symbol is sometimes called a *turnstile*, in particular a *semantic turnstile*. We previously introduced the following three uses of this symbol.

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---|
| (1) | $v \models \varphi$ | v satisfies φ . |
| (2) | $\models \varphi$ | φ is valid. |
| (3) | $\Gamma \models \varphi$ | Γ implies (has as a logical consequence) φ . |

Derivations have a counterpart to the semantic turnstile, namely the *syntactic turnstile*. (1) above has no syntactic counterpart. However, (2) and (3) above have the following counterparts.

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------|---|
| (4) | $\vdash \varphi$ | φ is provable. |
| (5) | $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$ | Γ proves (has as a derivational consequence) φ . |

(4) is the case if and only if there is a correct derivation of φ from no premises. Similarly, (5) is the case if and only if there is a correct derivation of φ which takes the members of Γ as premises.

The negations of (4) and (5) above are

$$(6) \quad \not\vdash \varphi$$

² Chapter 4.3 on page 24

(7)

 $\Gamma \not\vdash \varphi$

We can now define soundness and completeness as follows:

- Given a logical system, its derivation system is *sound* if and only if:

If $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$, then $\Gamma \vDash \varphi$.

- Given a logical system, its derivation system is *complete* if and only if:

If $\Gamma \vDash \varphi$, then $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$.

12 Inference Rules

12.1 Overview

Inference rules will be formatted as in the following example.

Conditional Elimination (CE)

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

$$\varphi \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\psi$$

The name of this inference rule is 'Conditional Elimination', which can be abbreviated as 'CE'. We can apply this rule if formulae having the forms above the line appear as active lines in the derivation. These are called the *antecedent lines* for this inference. Applying the rule adds a formula having the form below the line. This is called the *consequent line* for this inference. The annotation for the newly derived line will be the line numbers of the antecedent lines and the abbreviation 'CE'.

Note. You might see *premise line* and *conclusion line* for *antecedent line* and *consequent line*. You may see other terminology as well. Most textbooks avoid giving any special terminology here; they just leave it up to the classroom teaching assistant to make it up as they go.

Each sentential connective will have two inference rules, one each of the following types.

- An *introduction rule*. The introduction rule for a given connective allows us to derive a formula having the given connective as its main connective.
- An *elimination rule*. The elimination rule for a given connective allows us to use a formula already appearing in the derivation having the given connective as its main connective.

Three rules (Negation Introduction, Negation Elimination, and Conditional Introduction) will be deferred to a later page. These are so-called discharge rules which will be explained when we get to subderivations.

Three rules (Conjunction Elimination, Disjunction Introduction, and Biconditional Elimination) will have two forms each. We somewhat arbitrarily count the two patterns as forms of the same rule rather than separate rules.

The validity of the inferences on this page can be shown by truth table.

12.2 Inference rules

12.2.1 Negation

Negation Introduction (NI)

Deferred to a later page.

Negation Elimination (NE)

Deferred to a later page.

12.2.2 Conjunction

Conjunction Introduction (KI)

$$\varphi$$

$$\underline{\psi}$$

$$(\varphi \wedge \psi)$$

Conjunction Introduction traditionally goes by the name *Adjunction* or *Conjunction*.

Conjunction Elimination, Form I (KE)

$$\underline{(\varphi \wedge \psi)}$$

$$\varphi$$

Conjunction Elimination, Form II (KE)

$$\underline{(\varphi \wedge \psi)}$$

$$\psi$$

Conjunction Elimination traditionally goes by the name *Simplification*.

12.2.3 Disjunction

Disjunction Introduction, Form I (DI)

$$\varphi \underline{\quad}$$

$$(\varphi \vee \psi)$$

Disjunction Introduction, Form II (DI)

$$\psi \underline{\quad}$$

$$(\varphi \vee \psi)$$

Disjunction Introduction traditionally goes by the name *Addition*.

Disjunction Elimination (DE)

$$\varphi \vee \psi$$

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \chi)$$

$$\underline{(\psi \rightarrow \chi)}$$

$$\chi$$

Disjunction Elimination traditionally goes by the name *Separation of Cases*.

12.2.4 Conditional

Conditional Introduction (CI)

Deferred to a later page.

Conditional Elimination (CE)

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

$$\varphi \underline{\quad}$$

ψ

Conditional Elimination traditionally goes by the Latin name *Modus Ponens* or, less often, by *Affirming the Antecedent*.

12.2.5 Biconditional

Biconditional Introduction (BI)

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

$$\underline{(\psi \rightarrow \varphi)}$$

$$(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$$

Biconditional Elimination, Form I (BE)

$$(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$$

$$\underline{\varphi}$$

 ψ

Biconditional Elimination, Form II (BE)

$$(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$$

$$\underline{\psi}$$

 φ

12.3 Examples

Inference rules are easy enough to apply. From the lines

$$(1) \quad P \wedge Q \rightarrow (S \leftrightarrow T)$$

and

$$(2) \quad P \wedge Q$$

we can add to a derivation

$$(3) \quad S \leftrightarrow T.$$

The annotation will be the line numbers of (1) and (2) and the abbreviation for Conditional Elimination, namely 'CE'. The order of the antecedent lines does not matter. The inference is allowed if (1) appears before (2); it is also allowed if (2) appears before (1).

It must be remembered that inference rules are strictly syntactical. Semantically obvious variations is not allowed. It is not allowed, for example, to derive (3) from (1) and

$$(4) \quad Q \wedge P$$

However, you can get from (1) and (4) to (3) by first deriving

$$(5) \quad Q$$

and

$$(6) \quad P$$

by Conjunction Elimination (KE). Then you can derive (2) by Conjunction Introduction (KI) and finally (3) from (1) and (2) by Conditional Elimination (CE) as before. Some derivation systems have a rule, often called Tautological Implication, allowing you to derive any tautological consequence of previous lines. However, this should be seen as an (admittedly useful) abbreviation. On later pages, we will implement a restricted version of this abbreviation.

It is generally useful to apply break down premises, other assumptions (to be introduced on a later page) by applying elimination rules—and then continue breaking down the results. Supposing that is why we applied CE to (1) and (2), it will likely be useful to derive

$$(7) \quad S \rightarrow T$$

and

$$(8) \quad T \rightarrow S$$

by applying Biconditional Elimination (BE) to (3). To further break this down, you might then attempt to derive S or T so that you can apply CE to (7) or (8).

If you know what line you want to derive, you can build it up by applying introduction rules. That was the strategy for deriving (2) from (5) and (6).

13 Constructing a Simple Derivation

Our derivations consists two types of elements.

- *Derived lines.* A derived line has three parts:
 - *Line number.* This allows the line to be referred to later.
 - *Formula.* The purpose of a derivation is to derive formulae, and this is the formula that has been derived at this line.
 - *Annotation.* This specifies the justification for entering the formula into the derivation.
- *Fencing.* These include:
 - Vertical lines between the line number and the formula. These are used to set off subderivations which we will get to in the next module.
 - Horizontal lines separating premises and temporary assumptions from other lines. When we get to predicate logic, there are restrictions on using premises and temporary assumptions. Setting them off in an easy-to-recognize fashion aids in adhering to the restrictions.

We sometimes are a bit sloppy and speak of the formula as if it were the entire line. But the line also includes the formula's entourage, the line number and the annotation.

13.1 Rules

13.1.1 Premises

The annotation for a premise is 'Premise'. We will require that all premises to be used in the derivation be the first lines. No non-premise line is allowed to appear before a premise. In theory, an argument can have infinitely many premises. However, derivations have only finitely many lines, so only finitely many premises can be used in the derivation. We do not require that *all* premises appear before other lines. This would be impossible for arguments with infinitely many premises. But we do require that all premises to appear in the derivation appear before any other line.

The requirement that premises used in the derivation appear as its first lines is stricter than absolutely necessary. However, certain restrictions that will be needed when we get to predicate logic make the requirement at least a useful convention.

13.1.2 Inference rules

We introduced all but two inference rules in the previous module, and will introduce the other two in the next module.

13.1.3 Axioms

This derivation system does not have any axioms.

13.2 An example derivation

We will construct a derivation for the following argument:

$$P \wedge Q, P \vee R \rightarrow S, S \wedge Q \rightarrow T \quad \therefore \quad T$$

First, we enter the premises into the derivation:

Premise
Premise
Premise

$P \wedge Q$
 $P \vee R \rightarrow S$
 $S \wedge Q \rightarrow T$

1. 2. 3.

Note the vertical line between the line numbers and the formulae. That is part of the fencing that controls subderivations. We will get to subderivations in the next module. Until then, we simply put a single vertical line the length of the derivation. Note also the horizontal line under the premises. This is fencing that helps distinguish the premises from the other lines in the derivation.

Now we need to use the premises. Applying KE to the first premise twice. we add the following lines:

1 KE
1 KE

P Q

4. 5.

Now we need to use the second premise by applying CE. Since CE has two antecedent lines, we first need to derive the other line that we will need. We thus add these lines:

4 DI
2, 6 CE

$P \vee R$
S

6.
7.

Now we will use the third premise by applying CE. Again, we first need to derive the other line we will need. The new lines are:

5, 7 KI
3, 8 CE

$S \wedge Q$
T

8. 9.

Note line 9 is T. This is the conclusion of our argument, so we are done. The conclusion does not always fall into our lap so nicely, but here it did. The complete derivation runs:

| | |
|---------|----------------------------|
| Premise | $P \wedge Q$ |
| Premise | $P \vee R \rightarrow S$ |
| Premise | $S \wedge Q \rightarrow T$ |
| | P |
| | Q |
| | $P \vee R$ |
| | S |
| | $S \wedge Q$ |
| | T |

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.

14 Subderivations and Discharge Rules

As already seen, we need three more inference rules, Conditional Introduction (CI), Negation Introduction (NI), and Negation Elimination (NE). These require subderivations.

14.1 Deriving conditionals

14.1.1 Example derivation

We begin with an example derivation which illustrates Conditional Introduction. We will provide a derivation for the argument

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow R, S \wedge Q \quad \therefore \quad R$$

Subderivations and Discharge Rules

3.

4.

Premise
Premise

$(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow R$
 $S \wedge Q$

1.
2.

Lines 3 and 4 constitute a subderivation. It starts by assuming desired formula's antecedent and ends by deriving the desired formula's consequent. There are two vertical fences between the line numbers and the formulae to set it off from the rest of the derivation and to indicate its subordinate status. Line 3 has a horizontal fence under it to separate the assumption from the rest of the subderivation. Line 5 is the application of Conditional Introduction. It follows not from one or two lines but from the subderivation (lines 3–4) as a whole.

Conditional Introduction is a *discharge rule*. It discharges (makes inactive) that assumption and indeed makes the entire subderivation inactive. Once we apply a discharge rule, no line from the subderivation (here, lines 3 and 4) can be further used in the derivation.

14.1.2 The Conditional Introduction rule

Conditional Introduction (CI)

Assume φ , derive ψ

$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$

Here, the consequent line is not inferred from one or more antecedent lines, but from a subderivation as a whole. The annotation is the range of lines occupied by the subderivation and the abbreviation CI. Note that the antecedent subderivation can consist of a single line serving both as the assumed φ and the derived ψ as in the following derivation of

$\therefore P \rightarrow P$

2.

Assumption

P

1.

Unlike previously introduced inference rules, Conditional Introduction cannot be justified by a truth table. Rather it is justified by the Deduction Principle introduced at Properties of Sentential Connectives¹.

14.2 Negations

14.2.1 Example derivation

To illustrate Negation Introduction, we will provide a derivation for the argument

$$\neg(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow R, P \wedge \neg Q \quad \therefore \quad Q \vee R$$

¹ Chapter 8.4.1 on page 87

$$\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{P \quad Q} Q$$

Subderivations and Discharge Rules

3. 4. 5. 6.

Premise
Premise

$$\frac{\neg(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow R}{P \wedge \neg Q}$$

1. 2.

Lines 3 through 6 constitute a subderivation. It starts by assuming the desired formula's opposite and ends by assuming a contradiction (a formula and its negation). As before, there are two vertical fences between the line numbers and the formulae to set it off from the rest of the derivation and to indicate its subordinate status. And the horizontal fence under line 3 again separates the assumption from the rest of the subderivation. Line 7, which follows from the entire subderivation, is the application of Negation Introduction.

At line 9, note that the annotation '5 DI' would be incorrect. Although inferring $Q \vee R$ from Q is valid by DI, line 5 is no longer active when we get to line 9. Thus we are not allowed to derive anything from line 5 at that point.

14.2.2 The Negation Introduction rule

Negation Introduction (NI)

Assume φ , derive ψ and $\neg\psi$

$\neg\varphi$

The consequent line is inferred from the whole subderivation. The annotation is the range of lines occupied by the subderivation and the abbreviation is NI. Negation Introduction sometimes goes by the Latin name *Reductio ad Absurdum* or sometimes by *Proof by Contradiction*.

Like Conditional Introduction, Negation Introduction cannot be justified by a truth table. Rather it is justified by the Reductio Principle introduced at Properties of Sentential Connectives².

14.2.3 Another example derivation

To illustrate Negation Elimination, we will provide a derivation for the argument

$$\neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q) \wedge R \quad \therefore \quad P$$

² Chapter 8.4.1 on page 87

2.

3.

4.

Premise

 $\neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q) \wedge R$

1.

Lines 2 through 4 constitute a subderivation. As in the previous example, it starts by assuming the desired formula's opposite and ends by assuming a contradiction (a formula and its negation). Line 5, which follows from the entire subderivation, is the application of Negation Elimination.

14.2.4 The Negation Elimination rule

Negation Elimination (NE)

Assume $\neg\varphi$, derive ψ and $\neg\psi$

φ

The consequent line is inferred from the whole subderivation. The annotation is the range of lines occupied by the subderivation and the abbreviation is NE. Like Negation Introduction, Negation Elimination sometimes goes by the Latin name *Reductio ad Absurdum* or sometimes by *Proof by Contradiction*.

Like Negation Introduction, Negation Elimination is justified by the Reductio Principle introduced at Properties of Sentential Connectives³. This rule's place in the Introduction/Elimination naming convention is somewhat more awkward than for the other rules. Unlike the other elimination rules, the negation that gets eliminated by this rule does not occur in an already derived line. Rather the eliminated negation occurs in the assumption of the subderivation.

14.3 Terminology

The inference rules introduced in this module, Conditional Introduction and Negation Introduction, are discharge rules. For lack of a better term, we can call the inference rules introduced in Inference Rules⁴ 'standard rules'. A *standard rule* is an inference rule whose antecedent is a set of lines. A *discharge rule* is an inference rule whose antecedent is a subderivation.

The *depth* of a line in a derivation is the number of fences standing between the line number and the formula. All lines of a derivation have a depth of at least one. Each temporary assumption increases the depth by one. Each discharge rule decreases the depth by one.

An *active line* is a line that is available for use as an antecedent line for a standard inference rule. In particular, it is a line whose depth is less than or equal to the depth of the current line. An *inactive line* is a line that is not active.

A discharge rule is said to *discharge* an assumption. It makes all lines in its antecedent subderivation inactive.

³ Chapter 8.4.1 on page 87

⁴ Chapter 11.3 on page 109

15 Constructing a Complex Derivation

15.1 An example derivation

Subderivations can be nested. For an example, we provide a derivation for the argument

$$P \wedge R \rightarrow T, \quad S \wedge \neg T, \quad S \rightarrow \neg Q \quad \therefore \quad P \vee Q \rightarrow \neg R$$

We begin with the premises and then assume the antecedent of the conclusion.

Note. Each time we begin a new subderivation and enter a temporary assumption, there is a specific formula we are hoping to derive when it comes time to end the derivation and discharge the assumption. To make things easier to follow, we will add this formula to the annotation of the assumption. That formula will not officially be part of the annotation and does not affect the correctness of the derivation. Instead, it will serve as an informal reminder to ourselves noting where we are going.

$P \vee Q$

4.

Premise
Premise
Premise

$P \wedge R \rightarrow T$
 $S \wedge \neg T$
 $S \rightarrow \neg Q$

1.
2.
3.

This starts a subderivation to derive the argument's conclusion. Now we will try a Disjunction Elimination (DE) to derive its consequent:

$$\neg R$$

This will require the showing two conditionals we need for the antecedent lines of a DE, namely:

$$P \rightarrow \neg R$$

and

$$Q \rightarrow \neg R$$

We begin with the first of these conditionals.

6.

Assumption [P → ¬R]

P

5.

This subderivation is easily finished.

5. 6 KI
1. 7 CE
2. KE

P \wedge R
T
 \neg T

7.
8.
9.

Now we are ready to discharge the two assumptions at Lines 5 and 6.

Constructing a Complex Derivation

11.

6–9 NI

¬R

10.

Now it's time for the second conditional needed for our DE planned back at Line 4. We begin.

13.
14.
15.

Assumption [Q → ¬R]

Q

12.

Note that we have a contradiction between Lines 12 and 15. But line 12 is in the wrong place. We need it in the same subderivation as Line 15. A silly trick at Lines 16 and 17 below will accomplish that. Then the assumptions at Lines 12 and 13 can be discharged.

18.

12, 12 KI
16 KE

$Q \wedge Q$

16.
17.

Finally, with Lines 4, 11, and 19, we can perform the DE we've been wanting since Line 4.

4, 11, 19 DE

$\neg R$

20.

Now to finish the derivation by discharging the assumption at Line 4.

4–20 Cl

$P \vee Q \rightarrow \neg R$

21.

15.2 The complete derivation

Here is the completed derivation.

$P \wedge Q$

4.

Premise
Premise
Premise

$P \wedge R \rightarrow T$
 $S \wedge \neg T$
 $S \rightarrow \neg Q$

1.
2.
3.

16 Theorems

A *theorem* is a formula for which a zero-premise derivation has been provided. We will keep a numbered list of proved theorems. In the derivations that follow, we will continue our informal convention of adding a formula to the annotations of assumptions, in particular the formula we hope to derive by means of the newly started subderivation.

16.1 An example

You may remember from Constructing a Complex Derivation¹ that we had to employ a silly trick to copy a formula into the proper subderivation (Lines 16 and 17). We can prove a theorem that will help us avoid such obnoxiousness.

T1. $P \rightarrow P$

¹ Chapter 14.3 on page 137

2.

Assumption $[P \rightarrow P]$

P

1.

Derivations can be abbreviated by allowing a line to be entered whose formula is a substitution instance of a previously proved theorem. The annotation will be ' T_n where n is the number of the theorem. Although we won't require it officially, we will also show the substitution, if any, in the annotation (see Line 3 in the derivation below). The proof of the next theorem will use T_1 .

T2. $Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)$

2. 3.
4.

Assumption [$Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)$]

Q

1.

16.2 Justification: Converting to unabbreviated derivation

We need to justify using theorems in derivations in this way. To do that, we show how to produce a correct, unabbreviated derivation of **T2**, one without citing the theorem we used in its abbreviated proof.

Observe that when we entered Line 3 into our derivation of **T2**, we substituted Q for P in **T1**. Suppose you were to apply the same substitution on each line of our proof for **T1**. You would then end up with the following equally correct derivation.

2.

Assumption $[Q \rightarrow Q]$

Q

1.

Suppose now you were to replace Line 3 of our proof for **T2** with this derivation. You would need to adjust the line numbers so that you would have only one line per line number. You would also need to adjust the annotations so the line numbers they would continue to refer correctly. But, with these adjustments, you would end up with the following correct unabbreviated derivation of **T2**.

Theorems

2.

Assumption [Q → (P → Q)]

Q

1.

Thus we see that entering a previously proved theorem into a derivation is simply an abbreviation for including that theorem's proof into a derivation. The instructions above for unabbreviating a derivation could be made more general and more rigorous, but we will leave them in this informal state. Having instructions for generating a correct unabbreviated derivation justifies entering previously proved theorems into derivations.

16.3 Additional theorems

Additional theorems will be introduced over the next two modules.

17 Derived Inference Rules

This page introduces the notion of a **derived inference rule** and provides a few such rules.

17.1 Deriving inference rules

17.1.1 The basics

Now we can carry the abbreviation a step further. A *derived inference rule* is an inference rule not given to us as part of the derivation system but which constitutes an abbreviation using a previously proved theorem. In particular, suppose we have proved a particular theorem. In this theorem, uniformly replace each sentence letter with a distinct Greek letter. Suppose the result has the following form. [Comment: This and what follows seems to me to be potentially confusing to students. The intention stated in earlier sections to avoid metatheory makes for a problem here as one really should know about the Deduction Theorem for this to make more sense.]

$$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \varphi_n \rightarrow \psi$$

We may then introduce a derived inference rule having the form

$$\varphi_1$$

$$\varphi_2$$

...

$$\underline{\varphi_n}$$

$$\psi$$

An application of the derived rule can be eliminated by replacing it with (i) the previously proved theorem, (ii) enough applications of Conjunction Introduction (KI) to build up the theorem's antecedent, and (iii) an application of Conditional Elimination (CE) to obtain the theorem's consequent. The previously proved theorem can then be eliminated as described above. That would leave you with an unabbreviated derivation.

Please remember, removing the abbreviations from a derivation is not desirable. It will make the derivation more complicated and harder to read. Rather, the fact that a derivation *could* be unabbreviated if so desired (even though we don't really desire it) is what justifies the abbreviation, what permits us to employ the abbreviation in the first place.

17.1.2 Repetition

Our first derived inference rule will be based on **T1**, which is

$$P \rightarrow P$$

Replace the sentence letters with Greek letters, and we get:

$$\varphi \rightarrow \varphi$$

We now generate the derived inference rule:

Repetition (R)

$$\underline{\varphi}$$

$$\varphi$$

Now we can show how this rule could have simplified our proof of **T2**.

2.

3.

Assumption [Q → (P → Q)]

Q

1.

While this is only one line shorter than our original proof of **T2**, it is less obnoxious. We can use an inference rule instead of a silly trick. As a result, the derivation is easier to read and understand (not to mention easier to produce).

17.2 Double negation rules

The next two theorems—and the derived rules based on them—exploit the equivalence between a doubly negated formula and the unnegated formula.

17.2.1 Double Negation Introduction

$$\mathbf{T3.} \quad P \rightarrow \neg\neg P$$

2.

3.

Assumption [P $\rightarrow \neg\neg P$]

P

1.

T3 justifies the following rule.

Double Negation Introduction (DNI)

$$\underline{\varphi}$$

$$\neg\neg\varphi$$

17.2.2 Double Negation Elimination

T4. $\neg\neg P \rightarrow P$

2.

3.

Assumption $[\neg\neg P \rightarrow P]$ $\neg\neg P$

1.

T4 justifies the following rule.

Double Negation Elimination (DNE)

$$\underline{\neg\neg\varphi}$$

$$\varphi$$

17.3 Additional derived rules

17.3.1 Contradiction

T5. $P \wedge \neg P \rightarrow Q$

2.

3.

4.

Assumption $[P \wedge \neg P \rightarrow Q]$ P $\wedge \neg P$

1.

Our next rule is based on **T5**.

Contradiction (Contradiction)

φ

$\neg\varphi$

ψ

This rule is occasionally useful when you have derived a contradiction but the discharge rule you want is not NI or NE. This then avoids a completely trivial subderivation. The rule of Contradiction will be used in the proof of the next theorem.

17.3.2 Conditional Addition

T6. $\neg P \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)$

2.

3.

Assumption $[\neg P \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)]$ $\neg P$

1.

On the basis of **T2** and **T6**, we introduce the following derived rule.

Conditional Addition, Form I (CAdd)

$$\frac{\psi}{\varphi \rightarrow \psi}$$

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

Conditional Addition, Form II (CAdd)

$$\frac{\neg\psi}{\neg\psi}$$

$$(\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$$

The name 'Conditional Addition' is not in common use. It is based on the traditional name for Disjunction Introduction, namely 'Addition'. This rule does not provide a general means of introducing a conditional. This is because the antecedent line you would need is not always derivable. However, when the antecedent line just happens to be easily available, then applying this rule is simpler than producing the subderivation needed for a Conditional Introduction.

17.3.3 Modus Tollens

$$\mathbf{T7.} \quad (P \rightarrow Q) \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$$

2. 3.
4.
5.Assumption $(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$ $(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge \neg Q$

1.

Now we use **T7** to justify the following rule.

Modus Tollens (MT)

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$$

$$\underline{\neg\psi}$$

$$\neg\varphi$$

Modus Tollens is also sometimes known as 'Denying the Consequent'. Note that the following is **not** an instance of Modus Tollens, at least as defined above.

$$\neg P \rightarrow \neg Q$$

$$\underline{Q}$$

$$P$$

The premise lines of Modus Tollens are a conditional and the negation of its consequent. The premise lines of this inference are a conditional and the **opposite** of its consequent, but not the **negation** of its consequent. The desired inference here needs to be derived as below.

Premise
Premise
2 DNI
1, 3 CE
4 DNE

$\neg P \rightarrow \neg Q$
 Q
 $\neg\neg Q$
 $\neg\neg P$
 P

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

Of course, it is possible to prove as a theorem:

$$(\neg P \rightarrow \neg Q) \wedge Q \rightarrow P .$$

Then you can add a new inference rule—or, more likely, a new form of Modus Tollens—on the basis of this theorem. However, we won't do that here.

17.4 Additional theorems

The derived rules given so far are quite useful for eliminating frequently used bits of obnoxiousness in our derivations. They will help to make your derivations easier to generate and also more readable. However, because they are indeed derived rules, they are not strictly required but rather are theoretically dispensable.

A number of other theorems and derived rules could usefully be added. We list here some useful theorems but leave their proofs and the definition of their associated derived inference rules to the reader. If you construct many derivations, you may want to maintain your own personal list that you find useful.

17.4.1 Theorems with biconditionals

$$\mathbf{T8.} \quad (P \leftrightarrow Q) \wedge \neg P \rightarrow \neg Q$$

$$\mathbf{T9.} \quad (P \leftrightarrow Q) \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$$

$$\mathbf{T10.} \quad P \wedge Q \rightarrow (P \leftrightarrow Q)$$

$$\mathbf{T11.} \quad \neg P \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow (P \leftrightarrow Q)$$

17.4.2 Theorems with negations

$$\mathbf{T12.} \quad \neg(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow P \wedge \neg Q$$

$$\mathbf{T13.} \quad \neg(P \leftrightarrow Q) \rightarrow (P \leftrightarrow \neg Q)$$

$$\mathbf{T14.} \quad \neg(P \vee Q) \rightarrow \neg P \wedge \neg Q$$

$$\mathbf{T15.} \quad \neg(P \wedge Q) \rightarrow \neg P \vee \neg Q$$

18 Disjunctions in Derivations

Disjunctions in derivations are, as the current inference rules stand, difficult to deal with. Using an already derived disjunction by applying Disjunction Elimination (DE) is not too bad, but there is an easier to use alternative. Deriving a disjunction in the first place is more difficult. Our Disjunction Introduction (DI) rule turns out to be a rather anemic tool for this task. In this module, we introduce derived rules which provide alternative methods for dealing with disjunctions in derivations.

18.1 Using already derived disjunctions

18.1.1 Modus Tollendo Ponens

We start with a new (to be) derived rule of inference. This will provide a useful alternative to Disjunction Elimination (DE).

Modus Tollendo Ponens, Form I (MTP)

$$(\varphi \vee \psi)$$

$$\frac{}{\neg\varphi}$$

$$\psi$$

Modus Tollendo Ponens, Form II (MTP)

$$(\varphi \vee \psi)$$

$$\frac{\neg\psi}{\varphi}$$

$$\varphi$$

Modus Tollendo Ponens is sometimes known as Disjunctive Syllogism and occasionally as the Rule of the Dog.

18.1.2 Supporting theorems

This new rule requires the following two supporting theorems.

$$\mathbf{T16.} \quad (P \vee Q) \wedge \neg P \rightarrow Q$$

$(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg P \rightarrow Q$

7.

| | |
|------------|--|
| Assumption | $[(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg P \rightarrow Q]$ |
| 1. | 1 KE |
| 2. | 1 KE |
| 3. | 3 CAdd |
| 4. | T1 P Q |
| 5. | 2, 4, 5 DE |
| 6. | |

| |
|----------------------------|
| $(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg P$ |
| P ∨ Q |
| ¬P |
| P → Q |
| Q → Q |
| Q |

1. 2.
3. 4.
5. 6.

T17. $(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow P$

$$\frac{}{(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow P}$$

7.

Assumption $[(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q \rightarrow P]$

1. KE
2. KE
3. CAdd
4. T1
5. DE
6. 2, 4, 5 DE

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} (P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q \\ P \vee Q \\ \neg Q \\ Q \rightarrow P \\ P \rightarrow P \\ P \end{array}}{P}$$

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

18.1.3 Example derivation

For an example using MTP, we redo the example derivation from Constructing a Complex Derivation¹.

$$P \wedge R \rightarrow T, \quad S \wedge \neg T, \quad S \rightarrow \neg Q \quad \therefore \quad P \vee Q \rightarrow \neg R$$

¹ Chapter 14.3 on page 137

 $P \vee Q$

4.

Premise
Premise
Premise

$P \wedge R \rightarrow T$
 $S \wedge \neg T$
 $S \rightarrow \neg Q$

1.
2.
3.

After Line 4, we did not bother with subderivations for deriving the antecedent lines needed for DE. Instead, we went straight to a subderivation for the conclusion's consequent. At line 8, we applied MTP.

18.2 Deriving disjunctions

18.2.1 Conditional Disjunction

The next derived rule significantly reduces the labor of deriving disjunctions, thus providing a useful alternative to Disjunction Introduction (DI).

Conditional Disjunction (CDJ)

$$\underline{(\neg\varphi \rightarrow \psi)}$$

$$(\varphi \vee \psi)$$

18.2.2 Supporting theorem

T18. $(\neg P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow P \vee Q$

$\neg(P \vee Q)$

2.

Assumption $[(\neg P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow P \vee Q]$ $\neg P \rightarrow Q$

1.

18.2.3 Example derivation

This derivation will make use of **T12** (introduced at Derived Inference Rules²) even though its proof was left to the reader as an exercise. The correctness the following derivation, particularly Line 2, assumes that you have indeed proved **T12**.

$$\therefore (P \rightarrow Q) \vee (Q \rightarrow R)$$

² Chapter 16.3 on page 167

$$\frac{\neg(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow R)}{(P \rightarrow Q) \vee (Q \rightarrow R)}$$

7.

8.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Assumption} & [\neg(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow R)] \\ \text{T12} & \\ \text{1, 2 CE} & \\ \text{3 KE} & \\ \text{4 CAdd} & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg(P \rightarrow Q) \\ \neg(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow P \wedge \neg Q \\ P \wedge \neg Q \\ \neg Q \\ Q \rightarrow R \end{array}$$

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Here we attempted to derive the desired conditional by first deriving the antecedent line needed for CDJ.

3

Predicate Logic

3 <https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Category%3A>

19 Goals

Sentential logic¹ treated whole sentences and truth functional relations among them. **Predicate logic** treats more fine-grained logical features. This page will informally describe of the logic features of English captured by predicate logic.

19.1 Predicate logic goals

19.1.1 Predicates and terms

We distinguish between *predicates* and *terms*. The simplest terms are simple names such as 'one', 'Socrates', or 'Pegasus'. Simple predicates attribute properties to the object named. In

Socrates is bald.

'Socrates' is a name and 'is bald' is the predicate. We can informally exhibit its logical structure with

Bald(socrates)

There are also more complex terms such as '3 minus 2', 'the father of Socrates', and '3 divided by 0'. The logical structure of these can be exhibited informally by

minus(3, 2)

father(socrates)

quotient(3, 0)

These more complex terms can be used to construct sentences such as

3 minus 2 is even.

The father of Socrates is bald.

3 divided by zero is odd.

Their logical structure can be informally exhibited by

Even(minus(3, 2))

Bald(father(Socrates))

Odd(quotient(3, 0))

¹ Chapter 1.3.3 on page 9

There are also complex predicates, often called *relations*. Sentences using such predicates include

3 is greater than 2

Socrates is a child of the father of Socrates and the mother of Socrates.

Pegasus kicked Bucephalus.

Their logical structures can be informally exhibited as

Greater_than(3, 2)

Child(socrates, father(socrates), mother(socrates))

Kicked(pegasus, bucephalus)

19.1.2 General statements

Names and other terms refer to specific objects. We can also speak generally of all objects or of some (at least one) objects. Some examples are:

All numbers are prime.

Some numbers are prime.

Some numbers are not prime.

No numbers are prime.

The logical structures of the first three can be informally exhibited as

All x (if Number(x), then Prime(x)).

Some x (Number(x) and Prime(x)).

Some x (Number(x) and not(Prime(x))).

The fourth can have its logical structure exhibited either as

All x (if Number(x), then not Prime(x)).

or, equivalently, as

Not (some x (Number(x) and Prime(x))).

Note that we count

All unicorns have a horn

as trivially true because there are no unicorns. In addition, we take 'some' to mean *at least one* (not, as might be expected, *at least two*). Thus we take

Some prime numbers are even

to be true even though two is the only even prime.

19.1.3 More complexity

Variables such as ' x ' and ' y ' help us to keep the following straight.

- All x all y (if $\text{Person}(x)$ and $\text{Person}(y)$, then $\text{Loves}(x, y)$)
- All x all y (if $\text{Person}(y)$ and $\text{Person}(x)$, then $\text{Loves}(y, x)$)

These are equivalent and both say that everybody loves everybody.

- Some x some y ($\text{Person}(x)$ and $\text{Person}(y)$ and $\text{Loves}(x, y)$)
- Some x Some y ($\text{Person}(y)$ and $\text{Person}(x)$ and $\text{Loves}(y, x)$)

These are equivalent and both say that somebody loves someone.

- All x (if $\text{Person}(x)$, then some y ($\text{Person}(y)$ and $\text{Loves}(x, y)$))
- Some y ($\text{Person}(y)$ and all x (if $\text{Person}(x)$, then $\text{Loves}(x, y)$))

The first says that everybody loves somebody (or other—they do not necessarily all love the same person). The second says that somebody is loved by everybody. Thus the second, but not the first, requires a universally loved person.

- All x (if $\text{Person}(x)$, then some y ($\text{Person}(y)$ and $\text{Loves}(y, x)$))
- Some y ($\text{Person}(y)$ and all x (if $\text{Person}(x)$, then $\text{Loves}(y, x)$))

The first says that that everybody is loved by somebody (or other—not necessarily all loved by the same person). The second says that the somebody loves everybody. Thus the second, but not the first, requires a universal lover.

19.1.4 Domains

By convention, we can temporarily limit the range of the objects being considered. For example, a policy of speaking only about people might be conventionally adopted. Such a convention would allow us to hope optimistically that

All x some y $\text{Loves}(y, x)$

without hoping that cups and saucers are thereby loved. The truth or falsity of a sentence can be evaluated within the context of such a convention or policy. In a different context, a different convention might prove more convenient. For example, the policy of only speaking about people would prevent us from saying

$\text{Loves}(\text{alexander_the_great}, \text{beauchefalus})$

However, widening the domain to include both horses and people does allow us to say this.

We call the range of objects under discussion the *domain*, or sometimes the *domain of discourse*. A sentence that is true in the context of one domain may be false in the context of another.

19.2 Limits

There are two limits on predicate logic as conventionally developed and indeed as will be developed here.

- First, predicate logic assumes that at least one thing exists. We cannot, for example, limit the domain of discourse to unicorns.
- Second names and complex terms must refer to objects in the domain. Thus we cannot use such terms as

Pegasus

3 divided by 0

In addition, if we limit the domain to natural numbers, we cannot use a term such as

2 minus 3

The loss of '3 divided by 0' in turn requires predicate logic to avoid forming any term with 'divided by'. The loss of '2 minus 3' requires predicate logic to avoid forming any term with 'minus' except in the context of domains including negative numbers.

The significance of these limits is controversial. Free Logic² attempts to avoid such limits. It appears that there is a Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy³ entry on free logic in preparation.

2 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free%20logic>

3 <http://plato.stanford.edu/>

20 The Predicate Language

This page informally describes our **predicate language** which we name \mathcal{L}_P . A more formal description will be given in subsequent pages.

20.1 Language components

Use of \mathcal{L}_P occurs in the context of a *domain* of objects. Ascribing a property to everything is interpreted as ascribing it just to everything in the domain.

20.1.1 Terms

Variables will be lower case letters *n* through *z*. Variables serve roughly as placeholders or perhaps pronouns, particularly in general statements about all or some objects. A variable could serve as the 'it' in 'For any number, if it is even then it is not odd'.

Operation letters of zero or more places will consist of lower case letters *a* through *m*. Since the same letters are used for operation letters of any number of places, some disambiguation will be necessary. For now, just let the context decide the number of places. Note, though, that variables always have zero places.

Terms can be one of the following.

- A variable.
- A zero-place operation letter.
- An *n*-place operation letter (*n* being 1 or greater) followed by a parenthesised list of *n* terms. Examples include

$$f(c)$$

$$g(x,y)$$

Names are terms in which no variables occur. Names name. In particular, they name objects in the domain. Variables, and so terms containing variables (i.e., terms that are not names), do not name.

For the remainder of this page, assume the following translations.

$$c : \text{ Cain}$$

$f(x)$: the father of x

$g(x,y)$: the greater of x and y

With the right set of characters in the domain, biblical tradition has

c

$f(c)$

naming Cain and Adam respectively. The term

$g(x,y)$

doesn't name anything. However, if we abuse \mathcal{L}_P a bit by permitting numerals to serve as zero place operation letters, then the terms

$g(7,3)$

$g(3,3)$

name 7 and 3 respectively (assuming that 7 and 3 are in the domain).

20.1.2 Primitive formulae

Predicate letters of zero or more places will consist of capital letters **A** through **Z**. The same letters will be used for predicate letters of any number of places, so, as with operation letters, we will need to disambiguate. Again as with operation letters, we will let context decide the number of places for now. Notice that zero-place predicate letters are sentence letters we are familiar with from sentential logic¹.

Primitive formulae can be one of the following.

- A zero-place predicate letter (that is, a sentence letter).
- An n -place predicate letter (n being 1 or greater) followed by a parenthesised list of n terms. Examples include

P

¹ Chapter 1.3.3 on page 9

$$F(f(c))$$

$$G(g(x,y), u, v)$$

If P translates 'Snow is white', then it is true. However, it is false if it translates 'Snow is blue'.

Suppose we add

$$F(x) : x \text{ is bald}$$

$$b : \text{Yul Brenner}$$

$$k : \text{Don King}$$

to the translations above. Then

$$F(f(c))$$

is true or false according with whether Adam was bald. We say that F is true of all bald things and false of all non-bald things. Thus the first of

$$F(b)$$

$$F(k)$$

is true while the second is false. For confirmation of these truth evaluations, see pictures accompanying the Wikipedia² articles on Yul Brenner³ and Don King⁴. (Note. At one point, the picture of Don King had been removed from the Wikipedia article. However, he rather famously is not bald.)

Now add

$$G(x, y, z) : x \text{ is between } y \text{ and } z$$

to the translations above. Then

$$G(g(x, y), u, v)$$

² <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main%20Page>

³ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yul%20Brenner>

⁴ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don%20King%28boxing%20promoter%29>

is neither true nor false because, as above,

$$g(x, y)$$

does not name anything. For that matter, neither do the variables u or v . But if we again abuse \mathcal{L}_P a bit by permitting numerals to serve as zero place operation letters, then the first of

$$G(g(3, 3), 1, 4)$$

$$G(g(7, 3), 1, 4)$$

is true while the second is false.

20.1.3 Sentential connectives

The predicate language \mathcal{L}_P will use sentential connectives just as they were used in the sentential language \mathcal{L}_S . These were:

$$\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \text{ and } \leftrightarrow$$

Using the translations already set above (together with letting numerals be zero-place operation letters),

$$F(f(d)) \vee G(g(7, 3), 1, 4)$$

is true while

$$F(f(d)) \wedge G(g(7, 3), 1, 4)$$

is false.

20.1.4 Quantifiers

Quantifiers are special symbols that allow us to construct general sentences which are about all thing or about some (at least one) things.

Universal quantifier: \forall

- $\forall x$ translates to English as 'for all x .
- $\forall x F(x)$ is called a *universal generalization*.
- $\forall x F(x)$ is true if $F(x)$ is true of all objects in the domain. Roughly speaking, it is true if

$$F(a_1) \wedge F(a_2) \wedge \dots \wedge F(a_n)$$

where each (a_i) names an object in the domain and all objects in the domain are named. This is only a rough characterization, however. First, we do not require that all objects in the domain have a name in the predicate language. Second, we allow there to be infinitely many objects in the domain but do not allow infinitely long sentences.

- Some authors use (x) instead of $\forall x$. This notation is semi-obsolete and is becoming ever less frequent.

Existential quantifier: \exists

- $\exists x$ translates to English as 'there exists an x ' or, perhaps a bit more clearly, 'there exists at least one x '.
- $\exists x F(x)$ is called an *existential generalization*.
- $\exists x F(x)$ is true if $F(x)$ is true of at least one object in the domain. Roughly speaking, it is true if

$$F(a_1) \vee F(a_2) \vee \dots \vee F(a_n)$$

where each (a_i) names an object in the domain and all objects in the domain are named. This is only a rough characterization, however. First, we do not require that all objects in the domain have a name in the predicate language. Second, we allow there to be infinitely many objects in the domain but do not allow infinitely long sentences.

20.2 Translation

Using the translation scheme

$$F(x) : x \text{ is a number}$$

$$G(x) : x \text{ is prime}$$

we translate as follows.

All numbers are prime.

$$\forall x(Fx \rightarrow Gx)$$

Some numbers are prime.

$$\exists x(Fx \wedge Gx)$$

No numbers are prime. (*two equivalent alternatives are given*)

$$\forall x(Fx \rightarrow \neg Gx)$$

$$\neg \exists x(Fx \wedge Gx)$$

Some numbers are not prime.

$$\exists x(Fx \wedge \neg Gx)$$

Now using the translation scheme

$$P(x) : x \text{ is a person}$$

$$L(x,y) : x \text{ loves } y$$

$$g : \text{George}$$

$$m : \text{Martha}$$

we can translate as follows.

George loves Martha.

$$L(g,m)$$

Martha loves George.

$$L(m,g)$$

George and Martha love each other.

$$L(g,m) \wedge L(m,g)$$

We can further translate as follows.

Everybody loves everybody. (*the second alternative assumes only persons in the domain*)

$$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow \forall y(P(y) \rightarrow L(x,y)))$$

$$\forall x \forall y L(x,y)$$

Somebody loves somebody. (*the second alternative assumes only persons in the domain*)

$$\exists x(P(x) \wedge \exists y(P(y) \wedge L(x,y)))$$

$$\exists x \exists y L(x,y)$$

Everybody loves somebody (or other). (*the second alternative assumes only persons in the domain*)

$$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow \exists y(P(y) \wedge L(x,y)))$$

$$\forall x \exists y L(x,y)$$

Somebody is loved by everybody. (*the second alternative assumes only persons in the domain*)

$$\exists y \forall x(P(y) \wedge (P(x) \rightarrow L(x,y)))$$

$$\exists y \forall x L(x,y)$$

Everybody is loved by somebody (or other). (*the second alternative assumes only persons in the domain*)

$$\forall x \exists y (P(x) \rightarrow P(y) \wedge L(y, x))$$

$$\forall x \exists y L(y, x)$$

Somebody loves everybody. (*the second alternative assumes only persons in the domain*)

$$\exists y \forall x (P(y) \wedge (P(x) \rightarrow L(y, x)))$$

$$\exists y \forall x L(y, x)$$

21 Formal Syntax

In The Predicate Language¹, we informally described our sentential language. Here we give its **formal syntax** or grammar. We will call our language \mathcal{L}_P . This is an expansion of the sentential language \mathcal{L}_S and will include \mathcal{L}_S as a subset.

21.1 Vocabulary

- *Variables:* Lower case letters 'n'–'z' with a natural number subscript. Thus the variables are:

$$n_0, n_1, \dots, o_0, o_1, \dots, \dots, z_0, z_1, \dots$$

- *Operation letters:* Lower case letters 'a'–'m' with (1) a natural number superscript and (2) a natural number subscript.

$$a_0^0, a_1^0, \dots, b_0^0, b_1^0, \dots, \dots, m_0^0, m_1^0, \dots$$

$$a_0^1, a_1^1, \dots, b_0^1, b_1^1, \dots, \dots, m_0^1, m_1^1, \dots$$

...

A *constant symbol* is a zero-place operation letter. This piece of terminology is not completely standard.

- *Predicate letters:* Upper case letters 'A'–'Z' with (1) a natural number superscript and (2) a natural number subscript.

$$A_0^0, A_1^0, \dots, B_0^0, B_1^0, \dots, \dots, Z_0^0, Z_1^0, \dots$$

$$A_0^1, A_1^1, \dots, B_0^1, B_1^1, \dots, \dots, Z_0^1, Z_1^1, \dots$$

...

A *sentence letter* is a zero-place predicate letter.

¹ Chapter 19.2 on page 200

- *Sentential connectives:*

$\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$

- *Quantifiers:*

\forall , and \exists ,

- Grouping symbols:

(and)

The superscripts on operation letters and predicate letters indicate the number of places and are important for formation rules. The subscripts on variables, operation letters, and predicate letters are to ensure an infinite supply of symbols in these classes. On a subsequent page we will abbreviate away most superscript use by letting the context make the number of places clear. We will also abbreviate away most subscript use by letting a symbol without a subscript abbreviate one with the subscript '0'. For now, though, we stick with the unabbreviated form.

The sentence letters of sentential logic are zero-place predicate letters, namely predicate letters with the superscript '0'. The vocabulary of \mathcal{L}_S , the sentential logic formal language, includes zero-place predicate letters, sentential connectives, and grouping symbols.

21.2 Expressions

Any string of symbols from \mathcal{L}_P is an *expression*. Not all expressions are grammatically well formed. The primary well-formed expression is a formula. However, there are also well formed entities that are smaller than formulae, namely quantifier phrases and terms.

21.3 Formation rules

21.3.1 Quantifier phrases

A *quantifier phrase* is a quantifier followed by a variable. The following are examples:

$\forall x_0$

$\exists y_{37}$

21.3.2 Terms

An expression of \mathcal{L}_P is a *term* of \mathcal{L}_P if and only if it is constructed according to the following rules.

- i. A variable is a term.
- ii. A constant symbol (zero-place operation letter, i.e., an operation letter with the super-script '0') is a term.
- iii. If ζ is an n -place operation letter (n greater than 0) and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are terms, then

$$\zeta(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

is a term.

A *name* is a term with no variables.

21.3.3 Formulae

An expression of \mathcal{L}_P is a *well-formed formula* of \mathcal{L}_P if and only if it is constructed according to the following rules.

- i. A sentence letter (a zero-place predicate letter) is a well-formed formula.
- ii. If π is an n -place predicate letter (n greater than 0) and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are terms, then

$$\pi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

is a **well-formed formula**.

- iii. If φ and ψ are well-formed formulae, then so are each of:

iii-a. $\neg\varphi$

iii-b. $(\varphi \wedge \psi)$

iii-c. $(\varphi \vee \psi)$

iii-d. $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$

iii-e. $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$

- iv. If φ is a well-formed formula and α is a variable, then each of the following is a well-formed formula:

iv-a. $\forall\alpha\varphi$

iv-b. $\exists\alpha\varphi$

In general, we will use 'formula' as shorthand for 'well-formed formula'. We will see in the section Free and Bound Variables² that only some formulae are sentences.

21.4 Additional terminology

A few of these terms are repeated from above. All definitions from the sentential logic additional terminology³ section apply here except the definitions of 'atomic formula' and 'molecular formula'. These latter two terms are redefined below.

A *constant symbol* is a zero-place operation letter. (Note that different authors will vary on this.)

A *name* is a term in which no variables occur. (Note that different authors will vary on this. Some use 'name' only for zero-place operation letters, and some prefer to avoid the word altogether.)

A *sentence letter* is a zero-place predicate letter.

The *universal quantifier* is the symbol \forall . The *existential quantifier* is the symbol \exists .

A *quantified formula* is a formula that begins with a left parenthesis followed by a quantifier. A *universal generalization* is a formula that begins with a left parenthesis followed by a universal quantifier. An *existential generalization* is a formula that begins with a left parenthesis followed by a existential quantifier.

An *atomic formula* is one formed solely by formula formation clause {i} or {ii}. Put another way, an atomic formula is one in which no sentential connectives or quantifiers occur. A *molecular formula* is one that is not atomic. Thus a molecular formula has at least one occurrence of either a sentential connective or a quantifier. (*Revised from sentential logic.*)

A *prime formula* is a formula that is either an atomic formula or a quantified formula. A *non-prime formula* is one that is not prime. (Note that this is not entirely standard terminology. It has been used this way by some authors, but not often.)

The *main operator* of a molecular formula is the last occurrence of a sentential connective or quantifier added when the formula was constructed according to the rules above. If the main operator is a sentential connective, then it is also called the 'main connective' (as was done in the sentential language \mathcal{L}_S). However, there is a change as we move to \mathcal{L}_P . In predicate logic it is no longer true that all molecular formulae have a main connective. Some main operators are now quantifiers rather than sentential connectives.

2 Chapter 21.5 on page 214

3 Chapter 3.5 on page 19

21.5 Examples

$$(1) \quad f_0^2(g_2^2(x_0, f_0^2(a_0^0, c_2^0)), f_0^2(b_0^0, y_3))$$

By clause (i) in the definition of 'term', x_0 and y_3 are terms. Similarly, a_0^0 , b_0^0 , and c_2^0 are terms by clause (ii) of the definition of 'term'.

Next, by clause (iii) of the definition of 'term', the following two expressions are terms.

$$f_0^2(a_0^0, c_2^0)$$

$$f_0^2(b_0^0, y_3)$$

Then, by clause (iii) of the definition of 'term', the following is a term.

$$g_2^2(x_0, f_0^2(a_0^0, c_2^0))$$

Finally, (1) is a term by clause (iii) of the definition of 'term'. However, because it contains variables, it is not a name.

$$(2) \quad F_0^1(f_0^2(g_2^2(x_0, f_0^2(a_0^0, c_2^0)), f_0^2(b_0^0, y_3)))$$

We already saw that (1) is a term. Thus, by clause (ii) of the definition of formula, (2) is a formula.

$$(3) \quad \exists y_0 (\forall x_0 (F_0^2(x_0, y_0) \rightarrow G_0^2(x_0, z_0)) \wedge H_0^1(y_0))$$

By clause (i) in the definition of 'term', x_0 , y_0 , and z_0 are terms.

By clause (ii) of the definition for 'formula', the following are formulae.

$$F_0^2(x_0, y_0)$$

$$G_0^2(x_0, z_0)$$

$$H_0^1(y_0)$$

By clause (iii-d) of the definition for 'formula', the following is a formula.

$$(F_0^2(x_0, y_0) \rightarrow G_0^2(x_0, z_0))$$

By clause (iv-a) of the definition for 'formula', the following is a formula.

$$\forall x_0 (F_0^2(x_0, y_0) \rightarrow G_0^2(x_0, z_0))$$

By clause (iii-b) of the definition for 'formula', the following is a formula.

$$(\forall x_0 (F_0^2(x_0, y_0) \rightarrow G_0^2(x_0, z_0)) \wedge H_0^1(y_0))$$

Finally, by clause (iv-b) of the definition for 'formula', (3) is a formula.

22 Free and Bound Variables

22.1 Informal notions

The two English sentences,

If Socrates is a person, then Socrates is mortal,
if Aristotle is a person, then Aristotle is mortal,

are both true. However, outside any context supplying a reference for 'it',

(1) If it is a person, then it is mortal,

is neither true nor false. 'It' is not a name, but rather an empty placeholder. 'It' can refer to an object by picking up its reference from the surrounding context. But without such context, there is no reference and no truth or falsity. The same applies to the variable 'x' in

(2) If x is a person, then x is mortal.

This situation changes with the two sentences:

(3) For any object, if it is a person, then it is mortal,

(4) For any object x , if x is a person, then x is mortal.

Neither the occurrences of 'it' nor the occurrences of ' x ' in these sentences refer to specific objects as with 'Socrates' or 'Aristotle'. But (3) and (4) are nonetheless true. (3) is true if and only if:

(5) Replacing both occurrences of 'it' in (3) with a reference to any object whatsoever (the same object both times) yields a true result.

But (5) is true and so is (3). Similarly, (4) is true if and only if:

(6) Replacing both occurrences of ' x ' in (4) with a reference to any object whatsoever (the same object both times) yields a true result.

But (3) is true and so is (4). We can call the occurrences of 'it' in (1) free and the occurrences of 'it' in (3) bound. Indeed, the occurrences of 'it' in (3) are bound by the phrase 'for any'. Similarly, the occurrences ' x ' in (2) are free while those in (4) are bound. Indeed, the occurrences of ' x ' in (4) are bound by the phrase 'for any'.

22.2 Formal definitions

An occurrence of a variable α is bound in φ if that occurrence of α stands within a subformula of φ having one of the two forms:

$$\forall \alpha \psi ,$$

$$\exists \alpha \psi .$$

Consider the formula

$$(7) \quad (\exists x_0 F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow \forall y_0 F_0^1(y_0)) .$$

Both instances of x_0 are bound in (7) because they stand within the subformula

$$\exists x_0 F_0^1(x_0) .$$

Similarly, both instances of y_0 are bound in (7) because they stand within the subformula

$$\forall y_0 F_0^1(y_0) .$$

An occurrence of a variable α is free in φ if and only if α is not bound in φ . The occurrences of both x_0 and y_0 in

$$(8) \quad (F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow G_0^1(y_0))$$

are free in (8) because neither is bound in (8).

We say that *an occurrence of a variable α is bound in by a particular occurrence of \forall* if that occurrence is also the first (and perhaps only) symbol in the shortest subformula of φ having the form

$$\forall \alpha \psi .$$

Consider the formula

$$(9) \quad \forall x_0 (F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow \forall x_0 G_0^1(x_0)) .$$

The third and fourth occurrences of x_0 in (9) are bound by the second occurrence of \forall in (9). However, they are not bound by the first occurrence of \forall in (9). The occurrence of

$$(10) \quad \forall x_0 G_0^1(x_0)$$

in (9)—as well as the occurrence of (9) itself in (9)—are subformulae of (9) beginning with a quantifier. That is, both are subformula of (9) having the form

$$\forall \alpha \psi .$$

Both contain the second third and fourth occurrences of x_0 in (9). However, the occurrence of (10) in (9) is the *shortest* subformula of (9) that meets these conditions. That is, the occurrence of (10) in (9) is the shortest subformula of (9) that both (i) has this form and (ii) contains the third and fourth occurrences of x_0 in (9). Thus it is the second, not the first, occurrence of \forall in (9) that binds the third and forth occurrences of x_0 in (9). The first occurrence of \forall in (9) *does*, however, bind the first two occurrences of x_0 in (9).

We also say that *an occurrence of a variable α is bound in by a particular occurrence of \exists* if that occurrence is also the first (and perhaps only) symbol in the shortest subformula of φ having the form

$$\exists\alpha\psi.$$

Finally, we say that *a variable α (not a particular occurrence of it) is bound (or free) in a formula* if the formula contains a bound (or free) occurrence of α . Thus x_0 is both bound and free in

$$(\forall x_0 F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow F_0^1(x_0))$$

since this formula contains both bound and free occurrences of x_0 . In particular, the first two occurrences of x_0 are bound and the last is free.

22.3 Sentences and formulae

A *sentence* is a formula with no free variables. Sentential logic had no variables at all, so all formulae of \mathcal{L}_S are also sentences of \mathcal{L}_S . In predicate logic and its language \mathcal{L}_P , however, we have formulae that are not sentences. All of (7), (8), (9), and (10) above are formulae. Of these, only (7), (9), and (10) are sentences. (8) is not a sentence because it contains free variables.

22.4 Examples

All occurrences of x_0 in

$$(11) \quad \forall x_0(F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow G_0^2(x_0, y_0))$$

are bound in the formula. The lone occurrence of y_0 is free in the formula. (11) is a formula but not a sentence.

Only the first two occurrences of x_0 in

$$(12) \quad (\forall x_0 F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow G_0^2(x_0, y_0))$$

are bound in the formula. The last occurrence of x_0 and the lone occurrence of y_0 in the formula are free in the formula. (12) is a formula but not a sentence.

All four occurrences of x_0 in

$$(13) \quad (\forall x_0 F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow \exists x_0 G_0^2(x_0, y_0))$$

are bound. The first two are bound by the universal quantifier, the last two are bound by the existential quantifier. The lone occurrence of y_0 in the formula is free. (13) is a formula but not a sentence.

All three occurrences of x_0 in

$$(14) \quad \forall x_0 (F_0^1(x_0) \rightarrow \exists y_0 G_0^2(x_0, y_0))$$

are bound by the universal quantifier. Both occurrences of y_0 in the formula are bound by the existential quantifier. (14) has no free variables and so is a sentence and as well as a formula.

23 Models

23.1 Interpretations

We said earlier¹ that the formal semantics for a formal language such as \mathcal{L}_S (and now \mathcal{L}_P) goes in two parts.

- Rules for specifying an interpretation. An *interpretation* assigns semantic values to the non-logical symbols of a formal syntax. Just as a valuation was an interpretation for a sentential language, a *model* is an interpretation for a predicate language.
- Rules for assigning semantic values to larger expressions of the language. All formulae of the sentential language \mathcal{L}_S are sentences. This enabled rules for assigning truth values directly to larger formulae. For the predicate language \mathcal{L}_P , the situation is more complex. Not all formulae of \mathcal{L}_P are sentences. We will need to define the auxiliary notion *satisfaction* and use that when assigning truth values.

23.2 Models

A *model* is an interpretation for a predicate language. It consists of two parts: a domain and interpretation function. Along the way, we will progressively specify an example model \mathfrak{M} .

23.2.1 Domain

- A *domain* is a non-empty set.

Intuitively, the domain contains all the objects under current consideration. It contains all of the objects over which the quantifiers range. $\forall x$ is then interpreted as 'for any object x in the domain ...'; $\exists x$ is interpreted as 'there exists at least one object x in the domain such that ...'. Our predicate logic requires that the domain be non-empty, i.e., that it contains at least one object.

The domain of our example model \mathfrak{M} , written $|\mathfrak{M}|$, is $\{0, 1, 2\}$.

23.2.2 Interpretation function

- An *interpretation function* is an assignment of semantic value to each operation letter and predicate letter.

¹ Chapter 4.3 on page 24

The interpretation function for model \mathfrak{M} is $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$.

Operation letters

- To each **constant symbol** (i.e., zero-place operation letter) is assigned a member of the domain.

Intuitively, the constant symbol names the object, a member of the domain. If the domain is $|\mathfrak{M}|$ above and a_0^0 is assigned 0, then we think of a_0^0 naming 0 just as the name 'Socrates' names the man Socrates or the numeral '0' names the number 0. The assignment of 0 to a_0^0 can be expressed as:

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a_0^0) = 0 .$$

- To each **n -place operation letter** with n greater than zero is assigned an $n+1$ place function taking ordered n -tuples of objects (members of the domain) as its arguments and objects (members of the domain) as its values. The function must be defined on all n -tuples of members of the domain.

Suppose the domain is $|\mathfrak{M}|$ above and we have a 2-place operation letter f_0^2 . The function assigned to f_0^2 must then be defined on each ordered pair from the domain. For example, it can be the function f_0^2 such that:

$$f_0^2(0,0) = 2, \quad f_0^2(0,1) = 1, \quad f_0^2(0,2) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(1,0) = 1, \quad f_0^2(1,1) = 0, \quad f_0^2(1,2) = 2,$$

$$f_0^2(2,0) = 0, \quad f_0^2(2,1) = 2, \quad f_0^2(2,2) = 1 .$$

The assignment to the operation letter is written as:

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f_0^2) = f_0^2 .$$

Suppose that a_0^0 is assigned 0 as above and also that b_0^0 is assigned 1. Then we can intuitively think of the informally written $f(a,b)$ as naming (referring to, having the value) 1. This is analogous to 'the most famous student of Socrates' naming (or referring to) Plato or '2 + 3' naming (having the value) 5.

Predicate letters

- To each **sentence letter** (i.e., zero-place predicate letter) is assigned a truth value. For π a sentence letter, either

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(\pi) = \text{True}$$

or

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(\pi) = \text{False} .$$

This is the same treatment sentence letters received in sentential logic. Intuitively, the sentence is true or false accordingly as the sentence letter is assigned the value 'True' or 'False'.

- To each ***n*-place predicate letter** with *n* greater than zero is assigned an *n*-place relation (a set of ordered *n*-tuples) of members of the domain.

Intuitively, the predicate is true of each *n*-tuple in the assigned set. Let the domain be $|\mathfrak{M}|$ above and assume the assignment

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F_0^2) = \{<0, 1>, <1, 2>, <2, 1>\} .$$

Suppose that a_0^0 is assigned 0, b_0^0 is assigned 1, and c_0^0 is assigned 2. Then intuitively $F(a,b)$, $F(b,c)$, and $F(c,b)$ should each be true. However, $F(a,c)$, among others, should be false. This is analogous to 'is snub-nosed' being true of Socrates and 'is greater than' being true of $<2, 3>$.

23.2.3 Summary

The definition is interspersed with examples and so rather spread out. Here is a more compact summary. A model consists of two parts: a domain and interpretation function.

- A *domain* is a non-empty set.
- An *interpretation function* is an assignment of semantic value to each operation letter and predicate letter. This assignment proceeds as follows:
 - To each constant symbol (i.e., zero-place operation letter) is assigned a member of the domain.
 - To each *n*-place operation letter with *n* greater than zero is assigned an *n+1* place function taking ordered *n*-tuples of objects (members of the domain) as its arguments and objects (members of the domain) as its values.
 - To each sentence letter (i.e., zero-place predicate letter) is assigned a truth value.
 - To each ***n*-place predicate letter** with *n* greater than zero is assigned an *n*-place relation (a set of ordered *n*-tuples) of members of the domain.

23.3 Examples

23.3.1 A finite model

An example model was specified in bits and pieces above. These pieces, collected together under the name \mathfrak{M} , are:

$$|\mathfrak{M}| = \{1, 2, 3\} .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a_0^0) = 0 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(b_0^0) = 1 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(c_0^0) = 2 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f_0^2) = f_0^2 \text{ such that: } f_0^2(0,0) = 2, f_0^2(0,1) = 1, f_0^2(0,2) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(1,0) = 1, f_0^2(1,1) = 0, f_0^2(1,2) = 2, f_0^2(2,0) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(2,1) = 2, \text{ and } f_0^2(2,2) = 1 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F_0^2) = \{<0, 1>, <1, 2>, <2, 1>\} .$$

We have not yet defined the rules for generating the semantic values of larger expressions. However, we can see some simple results we want that definition to achieve. A few such results have already been described:

$f(a,b)$ resolves to 1 in \mathfrak{M} .

$F(a,b)$, $F(b,c)$, and $F(c,b)$ are True in \mathfrak{M} .

$F(a,a)$ is False in \mathfrak{M} .

Some more desired results can be added:

$F(a,f(a,b))$ is True in \mathfrak{M} .

$F(f(a,b),a)$ is False in \mathfrak{M} .

$F(c,b) \rightarrow F(a,b)$ is True in \mathfrak{M} .

$F(c,b) \rightarrow F(b,a)$ is False in \mathfrak{M} .

We can temporarily pretend that the numerals '0', '1', and '2' are added to \mathcal{L}_P and assign then the numbers 0, 1, and 2 respectively. We then want:

(1) $F(0,1) \rightarrow F(1,0)$ False in \mathfrak{M} .

(2) $F(1,2) \wedge F(2,1)$ True in \mathfrak{M} .

Because of (1), we will want as a result:

$$\forall x \forall y (F(x,y) \rightarrow F(y,x)) \text{ is false in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

Because of (2), we will want as a result:

$$\exists x \exists y (F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x)) \text{ is true in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

23.3.2 An infinite model

The domain $|\mathfrak{M}|$ had finitely many members; 3 to be exact. Models can have infinitely many members. Below is an example model \mathfrak{M}_2 with an infinitely large domain.

The domain $|\mathfrak{M}_2|$ is the set of natural numbers:

$$|\mathfrak{M}_2| = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

The assignments to individual constant symbols can be as before:

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(a_0^0) = 0 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(b_0^0) = 1 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(c_0^0) = 2 .$$

The 2-place operation letter f can be assigned, for example, the addition function:

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(f_0^2) = f_0^2 \text{ such that } f_0^2(u,v) = u + v .$$

The 2-place predicate letter F_0^2 can be assigned, for example, the *less than* relation:

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(F_0^2) = \{<x, y>: x < y\} .$$

Some results that should be produced by the specification of an extended model:

$$f(a,b) \text{ resolves to 1 in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

$$F(a,b) \text{ and } F(b,c) \text{ are True in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

$$F(c,b) \text{ and } F(a,a) \text{ are False in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

For every x , there is a y such that $x < y$. Thus we want as a result:

$$\forall x \exists y F(x, y) \text{ is true in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

There is no y such that $y < 0$ (remember, we are restricting ourselves to the domain which has no number less than 0). So it is not the case that, for every x , there is a y such that $y < x$. Thus we want as a result:

$$\forall x \exists y F(y, x) \text{ is false in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

24 Satisfaction

The rules for assigning truth to sentences of \mathcal{L}_P should say, in effect, that

$$\forall \alpha \varphi$$

is true if and only if φ is true of every object in the domain. There are two problems. First, φ will normally have free variables. In particular, it will normally have free α . But formulae with free variables are not sentences and do not have a truth value. Second, we do not yet have a precise way of saying that φ is true of every object in the domain. The solution to these problems comes in two parts.

- We will need an assignment of objects from the domain to the variables.
- We will need to say that a model satisfies (or does not satisfy) a formula with a variable assignment.

We can then define truth in a model in terms of satisfaction.

24.1 Variable assignment

Given model \mathfrak{M} , a *variable assignment* s is a function assigning each variable of \mathcal{L}_P a member of $|\mathfrak{M}|$. The function s is defined for all variables of \mathcal{L}_P , so each one is assigned a member of the domain.

Okay, we have assignments of domain members to variables. We also have an assignment of domain members to constant symbols—this achieved by the model's interpretation function. Now we need to use this information to generate assignments of domain members to arbitrary terms including, in addition to constant symbols and variables, complex terms formed by using n -place operation letters where n is greater than 0. This is accomplished by an *extended variable assignment* \bar{s} defined below. Remember that $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$ is the interpretation function of model \mathfrak{M} . It assigns semantic values to the operation letters and predicate letters of \mathcal{L}_P .

An extended variable assignment \bar{s} is a function making assignments as follows.

If α is a **variable**, then:

$$\bar{s}(\alpha) = s(\alpha)$$

If α is a **constant symbol** (i.e., a 0-place operation letter), then:

$$\bar{s}(\alpha) = I_{\mathfrak{M}}(\alpha)$$

If ζ is an n -place operation letter (n greater than 0) and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are **terms**, then:

$$\bar{s}(\zeta(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)) = I_{\mathfrak{M}}(\zeta)(\bar{s}(\alpha_1), \bar{s}(\alpha_2), \dots, \bar{s}(\alpha_n))$$

Some examples may help. Suppose we have model $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$ where:

$$|\mathfrak{M}| = \{1, 2, 3\}.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a_0^0) = 0.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(b_0^0) = 1.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f_0^2) = f_0^2 \text{ such that: } f_0^2(0, 0) = 2, f_0^2(0, 1) = 1, f_0^2(0, 2) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(1, 0) = 1, f_0^2(1, 1) = 0, f_0^2(1, 2) = 2, f_0^2(2, 0) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(2, 1) = 2, \text{ and } f_0^2(2, 2) = 1.$$

On the previous page¹, it was noted that we want the following result:

$$f(a, b) \text{ resolves to 1 in } \mathfrak{M}.$$

We now have achieved this because we have for any s defined on $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{s}(f(a, b)) &= I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f)(\bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(b)) = f_0^2(\bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(b)) \\ &= f_0^2(I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a), I_{\mathfrak{M}}(b)) = f_0^2(0, 1) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose we also have a variable assignment s where:

$$s(x_0) = 0.$$

$$s(y_0) = 1.$$

Then we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{s}(f(x, y)) &= I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f)(\bar{s}(x), \bar{s}(y)) = f_0^2(\bar{s}(x), \bar{s}(y)) \\ &= f_0^2(f)(s(x), s(y)) = f_0^2(0, 1) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

¹ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

24.2 Satisfaction

A model, together with a variable assignment, can *satisfy* (or fail to satisfy) a formula. Then we will use the notion of satisfaction with a variable assignment to define truth of a sentence in a model. We can use the following convenient notation to say that the interpretation \mathfrak{M} satisfies (or does not satisfy) φ with s .

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models \varphi$$

We now define *satisfaction of a formula by a model with a variable assignment*. In the following, 'iff' is used to mean 'if and only if'.

- i. For σ a sentence letter:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \sigma \text{ iff } I_{\mathfrak{M}}(\sigma) = \text{True} .$$

- ii. For π an n -place predicate letter and for $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ any terms:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \pi(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \text{ iff } \langle \bar{s}(\alpha_0), \bar{s}(\alpha_1), \dots, \bar{s}(\alpha_n) \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(\pi) .$$

- iii. For φ a formula:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \neg\varphi \text{ iff } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models \varphi .$$

- iv. For φ and ψ formulae:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models (\varphi \wedge \psi) \text{ iff } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi \text{ and } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \psi .$$

- v. For φ and ψ formulae:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models (\varphi \vee \psi) \text{ iff } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi \text{ or } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \psi \text{ (or both)} .$$

- vi. For φ and ψ formulae:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models (\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \text{ iff } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models \varphi \text{ or } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \psi \text{ (or both)} .$$

- vii. For φ and ψ formulae:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models (\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi) \text{ iff } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models (\varphi \wedge \psi) \text{ or } \langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models (\neg\varphi \wedge \neg\psi) \text{ (or both)} .$$

- viii. For φ a formula and α a variable:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \forall\alpha \varphi \text{ iff for every } d \in |\mathfrak{M}|, \langle \mathfrak{M}, s[\alpha : d] \rangle \models \varphi .$$

where $s[\alpha : d]$ differs from s only in assigning d to α .

ix. For φ a formula and α a variable:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \exists \alpha \varphi \text{ iff for at least one } d \in |\mathfrak{M}|, \langle \mathfrak{M}, s[\alpha : d] \rangle \models \varphi.$$

where $s[\alpha : d]$ differs from s only in assigning d to α .

24.3 Examples

The following continue the examples used when describing extended variable assignments above. They are based on the examples of the previous page².

24.3.1 A model and variable assignment for examples

Suppose we have model $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$ where

$$|\mathfrak{M}| = \{0, 1, 2\}.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a_0^0) = 0.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(b_0^0) = 1.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(c_0^0) = 2.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f_0^2) = f_0^2 \text{ such that: } f_0^2(0, 0) = 2, f_0^2(0, 1) = 1, f_0^2(0, 2) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(1, 0) = 1, f_0^2(1, 1) = 0, f_0^2(1, 2) = 2, f_0^2(2, 0) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(2, 1) = 2, \text{ and } f_0^2(2, 2) = 1.$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F_0^2) = \{\langle 0, 1 \rangle, \langle 1, 2 \rangle, \langle 2, 1 \rangle\}.$$

Suppose further we have a variable assignment s where:

$$s(x_0) = 0.$$

$$s(y_0) = 1.$$

$$s(z_0) = 2.$$

² Chapter 22.4 on page 218

We already saw that both of the following resolve to 1:

$$f(a, b)$$

$$f(x, y)$$

24.3.2 Examples without quantifiers

Given model \mathfrak{M} , the previous page³ noted the following further goals:

$$(1) \quad F(a, b), F(b, c), \text{ and } F(c, b) \text{ are True in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(2) \quad F(a, a) \text{ is False in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(3) \quad F(a, f(a, b)) \text{ is True in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(4) \quad F(f(a, b), a) \text{ is False in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(5) \quad F(c, b) \rightarrow F(a, b) \text{ is True in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(6) \quad F(c, b) \rightarrow F(b, a) \text{ is False in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

We are not yet ready to evaluate for truth or falsity, but we can take a step in that direction by seeing that these sentences are satisfied by \mathfrak{M} with s . Indeed, the details of s will not figure in determining which of these are satisfied. Thus \mathfrak{M} satisfies (or fails to satisfy) them with any variable assignment. As we will see on the next page, that is the criterion for truth (or falsity) in \mathfrak{M} .

Corresponding to (1),

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(a, b), F(b, c), \text{ and } F(c, b) .$$

In particular:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(a, b) \text{ because } \langle \bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(b) \rangle = \langle 0, 1 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) .$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(b, c) \text{ because } \langle \bar{s}(b), \bar{s}(c) \rangle = \langle 1, 2 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) .$$

³ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(c, b)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(c), \bar{s}(b) \rangle = \langle 2, 1 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

Corresponding to (2) through (6) respectively:

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(a, a)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(a) \rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(a, f(a, b))$ because $\langle \bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(f(a, b)) \rangle = \langle 0, 1 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(f(a, b), a)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(f(a, b)), \bar{s}(a) \rangle = \langle 1, 0 \rangle \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(c, b) \rightarrow F(a, b)$ because $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(a, b)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(c, b) \rightarrow F(b, a)$ because $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(c, b)$ but $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(b, a)$.

As noted above, the details of s were not relevant to these evaluations. But for similar formulae using free variables instead of constant symbols, the details of s do become relevant. Examples based on the above are:

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(x, y)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(x), \bar{s}(y) \rangle = \langle 0, 1 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(y, z)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(y), \bar{s}(z) \rangle = \langle 1, 2 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(z, y)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(z), \bar{s}(y) \rangle = \langle 2, 1 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(x, x)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(x), \bar{s}(x) \rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(x, f(x, y))$ because $\langle \bar{s}(x), \bar{s}(f(x, y)) \rangle = \langle 0, 1 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(f(x, y), x)$ because $\langle \bar{s}(f(x, y)), \bar{s}(x) \rangle = \langle 1, 0 \rangle \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(z, y) \rightarrow F(x, y)$ because $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(x, y)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(z, y) \rightarrow F(y, x)$ because $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(z, y)$ but $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(y, x)$.

24.3.3 Examples with quantifiers

Given model \mathfrak{M} , the previous page⁴ also noted the following further goals:

$$(7) \quad \forall x \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x)) \text{ is false in } \mathfrak{M}.$$

$$(8) \quad \exists x \exists y (F(x, y) \wedge F(y, x)) \text{ is true in } \mathfrak{M}.$$

Again, we are not yet ready to evaluate for truth or falsity, but again we can take a step in that direction by seeing that the sentence in (7) is and the sentence in (8) is not satisfied by \mathfrak{M} with s .

Corresponding to (7):

$$(9) \quad <\mathfrak{M}, s> \not\models \forall x \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x))$$

is true if and only if at least one of the following is true:

$$(10) \quad <\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 0]> \not\models \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x))$$

$$(11) \quad <\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 1]> \not\models \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x))$$

$$(12) \quad <\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 2]> \not\models \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x))$$

The formula of (7) and (9) is satisfied by $<\mathfrak{M}, s>$ if and only if it is satisfied by \mathfrak{M} with each of the modified variable assignments. Turn this around, and we get the formula failing to be satisfied by $<\mathfrak{M}, s>$ if and only if it fails to be satisfied by the model with at least one of the three modified variable assignments as per (10) through (12). Similarly, (10) is true if and only if at least one of the following are true:

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 0, y : 0]> \not\models F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 0, y : 1]> \not\models F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 0, y : 2]> \not\models F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x)$$

Indeed, the middle one of these is true. This is because

$$<0, 1> \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) \text{ but } <1, 0> \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F).$$

⁴ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

Thus (9) is true.

Corresponding to (8),

$$(13) \quad <\mathfrak{M}, s> \models \exists x \exists y (F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x))$$

is true if and only if at least one of the following is true:

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 0]> \models \exists y (F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x))$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 1]> \models \exists y (F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x))$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 2]> \models \exists y (F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x))$$

The middle of these is true if and only if at least one of the following are true:

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 1, y : 0]> \models F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 1, y : 1]> \models F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s[x : 1, y : 2]> \models F(x,y) \wedge F(y,x)$$

Indeed, the last of these is true. This is because:

$$<1, 2> \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) \text{ and } <2, 1> \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) .$$

Thus (13) is true.

25 Truth

25.1 Truth in a model

We have defined satisfaction in a model with a variable assignment. We have expressed formula φ being satisfied by model \mathfrak{M} with variable assignment s as:

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi$$

Now we can also say that a formula φ is satisfied by model \mathfrak{M} (not limited to a specific variable assignment) if and only if φ is satisfied by \mathfrak{M} with every variable assignment. Thus

$$\mathfrak{M} \models \varphi$$

if and only if

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi \text{ for every } s .$$

If no free variables occur in φ , (that is, if φ is a sentence), then φ is true in model \mathfrak{M} .

Variable assignments allow us to deal with free variables when doing the semantic analysis of a formula. For two variable assignments, s_1 and s_2 , satisfaction by $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s_1 \rangle$ differs from satisfaction by $\langle \mathfrak{M}, s_2 \rangle$ only if the formula has free variables. But sentences do not have free variables. Thus a model satisfies a sentence with at least one variable assignment if and only if it satisfies the sentence with every variable assignment. The following two definitions are equivalent:

φ is true in \mathfrak{M} if and only if there is a variable assignment s such that

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi .$$

φ is true in \mathfrak{M} if and only if, for every variable assignment s ,

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \varphi .$$

The latter is just a notational variant of:

φ is true in \mathfrak{M} if and only if

$$\mathfrak{M} \models \varphi .$$

25.2 Examples

25.2.1 A finite model

The example model

On the previous page¹, we looked at the following model and variable assignment.

For the model $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$:

$$|\mathfrak{M}| = \{1, 2, 3\} .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a_0^0) = 0 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(b_0^0) = 1 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(c_0^0) = 2 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f_0^2) = f_0^2 \text{ such that: } f_0^2(0, 0) = 2, f_0^2(0, 1) = 1, f_0^2(0, 2) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(1, 0) = 1, f_0^2(1, 1) = 0, f_0^2(1, 2) = 2, f_0^2(2, 0) = 0,$$

$$f_0^2(2, 1) = 2, \text{ and } f_0^2(2, 2) = 1 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F_0^2) = \{<0, 1>, <1, 2>, <2, 1>\} .$$

For the variable assignment s :

$$s(x_0) = 0 .$$

$$s(y_0) = 1 .$$

$$s(z_0) = 2 .$$

Example results

We noted the following results:

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s> \models F(a, b), F(b, c), \text{ and } F(c, b) .$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s> \not\models F(a, a)) .$$

¹ Chapter 23.3.2 on page 224

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(a, f(a, b)) .$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(f(a, b), a) .$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models F(c, b) \rightarrow F(a, b) .$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models F(c, b) \rightarrow F(b, a) .$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \not\models \forall x \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x))$$

$$\langle \mathfrak{M}, s \rangle \models \exists x \exists y (F(x, y) \wedge F(y, x))$$

We also noted above that for sentences (though not for formulae in general), a model satisfies the sentence with at least one variable assignment if and only if it satisfies the sentence with every variable assignment. Thus the results just listed hold for every variable assignment, not just s .

Applying our definition of truth, we get:

$$(1) \quad F(a, b), F(b, c), \text{ and } F(c, b) \text{ are True in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(2) \quad F(a, a) \text{ is False in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(3) \quad F(a, f(a, b)) \text{ is True in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(4) \quad F(f(a, b), a) \text{ is False in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(5) \quad F(c, b) \rightarrow F(a, b) \text{ is True in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(6) \quad F(c, b) \rightarrow F(b, a) \text{ is False in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(7) \quad \forall x \forall y (F(x, y) \rightarrow F(y, x)) \text{ is false in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

$$(8) \quad \exists x \exists y (F(x, y) \wedge F(y, x)) \text{ is true in } \mathfrak{M} .$$

This corresponds to the goals (1)–(8) of the previous page². We have now achieved those goals.

25.2.2 An infinite model

The example model

On Models page³, we also considered an infinite model $I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}$:

$$|\mathfrak{M}_2| = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(a_0^0) = 0 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(b_0^0) = 1 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(c_0^0) = 2 .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(f_0^2) = \mathfrak{f}_0^2 \text{ such that } \mathfrak{f}_0^2(u, v) = u + v .$$

$$I_{\mathfrak{M}_2}(F_0^2) = \{<x, y>: x < y\} .$$

We can reuse the same variable assignment from above, namely s :

$$s(x_0) = 0 .$$

$$s(y_0) = 1 .$$

$$s(z_0) = 2 .$$

² Chapter 23.3.2 on page 224

³ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

Example of extended variable assignment

On the Models page⁴, we listed the following goals for our definitions.

$$f(a, b) \text{ resolves to } 1 \text{ in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

This does not require our definition of truth or the definition of satisfaction; it is simply requires evaluating the exended variable assignment. We have for any s on defined on $I_{\mathfrak{M}}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{s}(f(a, b)) &= I_{\mathfrak{M}}(f)(\bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(b)) = f_0^2(\bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(b)) \\ &= f_0^2(I_{\mathfrak{M}}(a), I_{\mathfrak{M}}(b)) = f_0^2(0, 1) \\ &= 0 + 1 = 1 . \end{aligned}$$

Example results without quantifiers

We also listed the following goal on the Models page⁵.

$$(9) \quad F(a, b) \text{ and } F(b, c) \text{ are True in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

$$(10) \quad F(c, b) \text{ and } F(a, a) \text{ are False in } \mathfrak{M}_2 .$$

First we note that:

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s> \models F(a, b) \text{ because } <\bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(b)> = <0, 1> \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s> \models F(b, c) \text{ because } <\bar{s}(b), \bar{s}(c)> = <1, 2> \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s> \not\models F(c, b) \text{ because } <\bar{s}(c), \bar{s}(b)> = <2, 1> \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$$

$$<\mathfrak{M}, s> \not\models F(a, a) \text{ because } <\bar{s}(a), \bar{s}(a)> = <0, 0> \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) .$$

Indeed:

$$<0, 1> \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F) \text{ because } 0 < 1$$

⁴ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

⁵ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

$\langle 1, 2 \rangle \in I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$ because $1 < 2$

$\langle 2, 1 \rangle \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$ because $2 \not< 1$

$\langle 0, 0 \rangle \notin I_{\mathfrak{M}}(F)$ because $0 \not< 0$.

Because the formulae of (9) and (10) are sentences,

$\langle \mathfrak{M} \rangle \models F(a, b)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M} \rangle \models F(b, c)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M} \rangle \not\models F(c, b)$.

$\langle \mathfrak{M} \rangle \not\models F(a, a)$.

Applying the definition of truth, we find the goals of (9) and (10) achieved. The sentences of (9) are true and those of (10) are false.

Example results with quantifiers

In addition, we listed the following goal on the Models page⁶.

(11) $\forall x \exists y F(x, y)$ is true in \mathfrak{M}_2 .

(12) $\forall x \exists y F(y, x)$ is false in \mathfrak{M}_2 .

Corresponding to (11):

(13) $\langle \mathfrak{M}_2, s \rangle \models \forall x \exists y F(x, y)$

is true if and only if, for each i a member of the domain, the following is true of at least one j a member of the domain:

$\langle \mathfrak{M}_2, s[x : i, x : j] \rangle \models F(x, y)$.

⁶ Chapter 22.4 on page 218

But F_0^2 was assigned the *less then* relation. Thus the preceding holds if and only if, for every member of the domain, there is a larger member of the domain. Given that the domain is $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, this is obviously true. Thus, (13) is true. Given that the formula of (11) and (12) is a sentence, we find the goal expressed as (11) to be met.

Corresponding to (12):

$$(14) \quad <\mathfrak{M}_2, s> \models \forall x \exists y F(y, x)$$

is true if and only if, for each i a member of the domain, the following is true of at least one j a member of the domain:

$$<\mathfrak{M}_2, s[x : i, x : j]> \models F(y, x) .$$

This holds if and only if, for every member of the domain, there is a smaller member of the domain. But there is no member of the domain smaller than 0. Thus (14) is false. The formula of (12) and (14) fails to be satisfied by \mathfrak{M}_2 with variable assignment s . The formula of (12) and (14) is a sentence, so it fails to be satisfied by \mathfrak{M}_2 with *any* variable assignment. The formula (a sentence) of (12) and (14) is false, and so the goal of (12) is met.

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